



THRASHER

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~~INTRODUCING~~ SLIMEBALLS VOMITS



PHOTO: MATT PRICE



56MM 99A



GUEST ARTIST
LURKER LOU SOROWSKY

oh what you Do For Me!



PHOTO: ZARED BASSETT



KRÖÖKED





***“I learned McTwists when
I was 16 on a Hosoi Street Hammerhead.
It took me a month”***

Peter Hewitt, P. 134



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Cover: **Filipe Mota** makes his mark with a hellacious **kickflip front blunt**. Burn Hollywood burn! Photo: Burnett

Contents: From stone to steel, **Romel Torres** sets a sizzling pace in the Pacific Northwest. Photo: Brook





easy does it





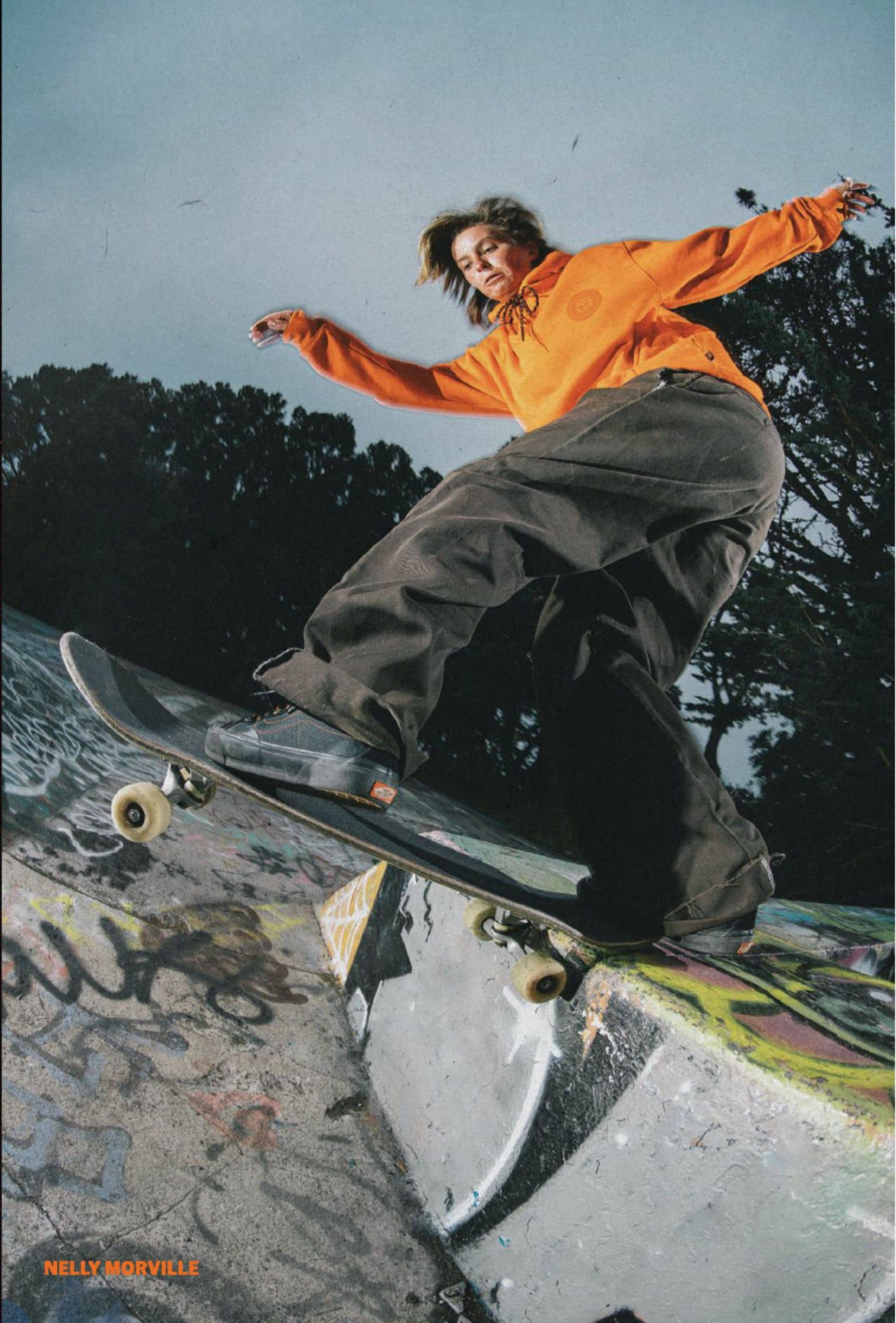
a new relaxed, comfy, concave.
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to try one...
tell 'em Pat sent ya.





BRIAN O'DWYER



NELLY MORVILLE





SPITFIRE WHEELS





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FLORIDA MAN

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JAKE PHELPS 1962–2019  STILL WATCHIN'



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OUT NOW



PHOTOS REMY STRATTON

BONELESSING THROUGH



TIME AND SPACE

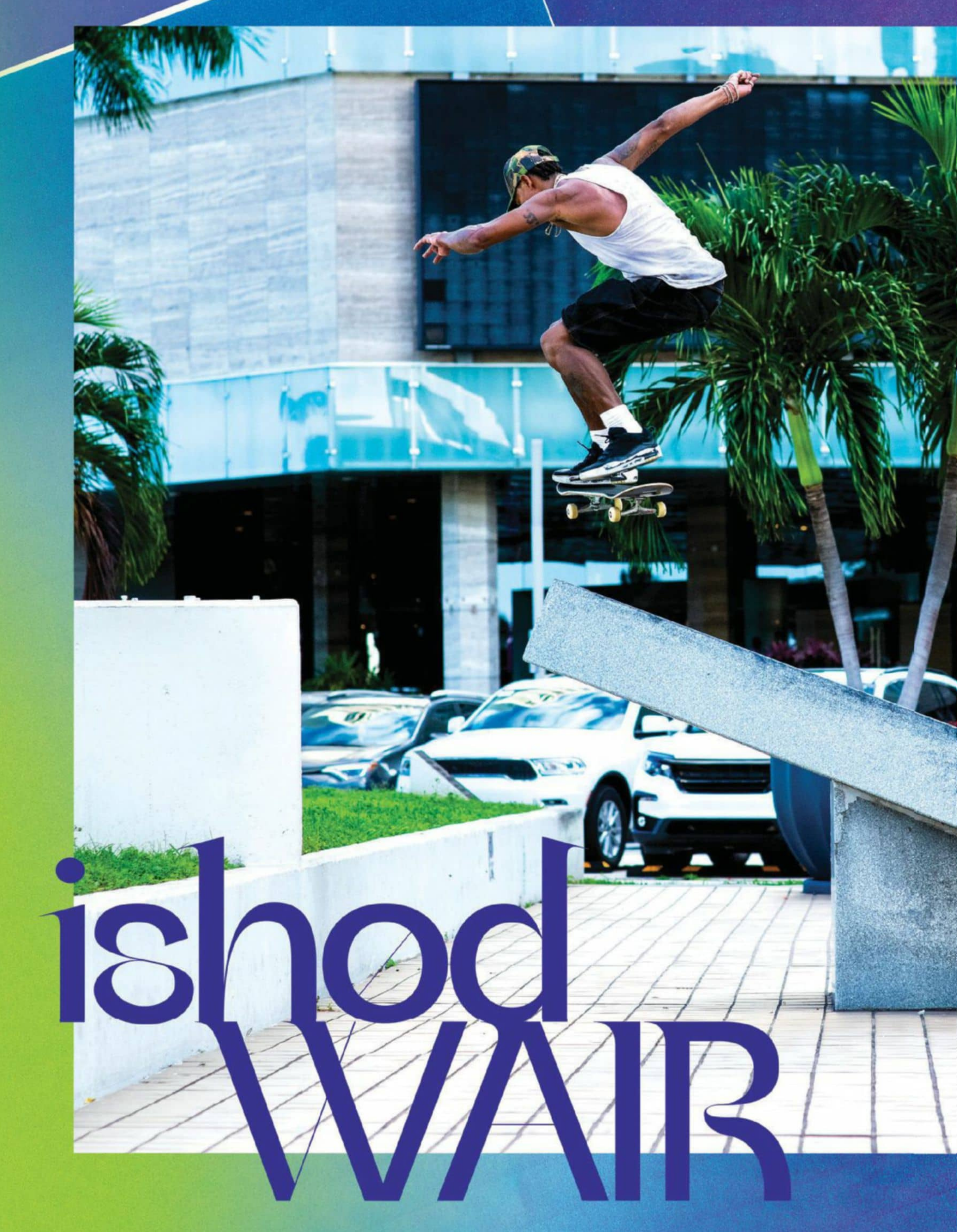


I THINK IM HERE to SKATE WEIRD STUFF



SKATEBOARDING LIKE FINE WINE,

PETER FULW NEWITT



ishood
WVR



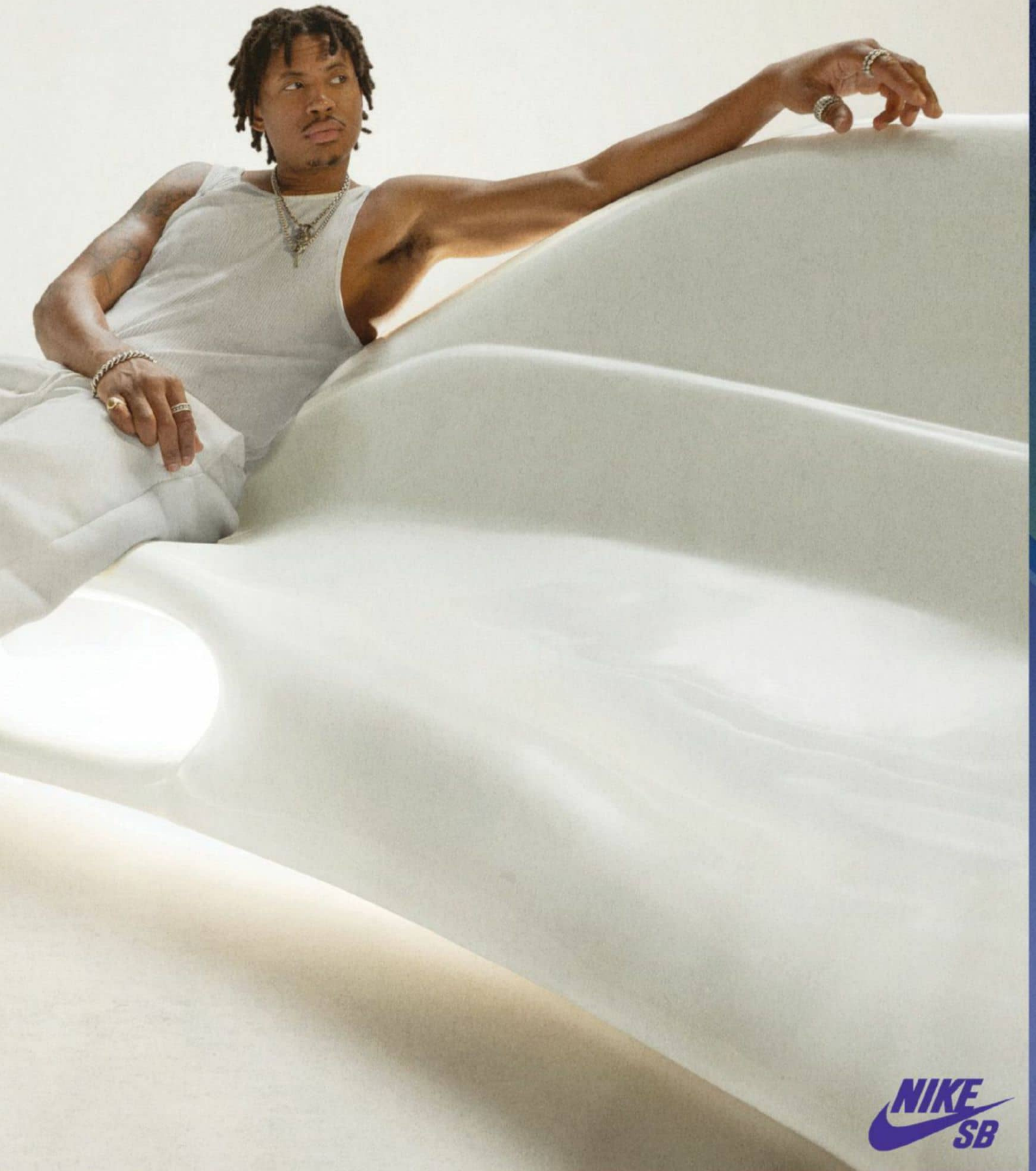
THE ISHOD WAIR 2



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WAIR WAIR







LEFT TO RIGHT: BILLY WEAVER, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA
TROY ALMHJELD, RUSH CITY, MINNESOTA

SURE WOOD

As you know, 7.75-inch-wide decks are rare. Ones with good concave are even more obscure. My 45-year-old ass with a new hip (accompanied by a deaf right ear plus other shitty health problems) has only one thing keeping himself in this skate world—7.75 decks. Roger skateboards have the last deep concave deck in the world. Our humble shop Eduskate gets them through AWH. I tried to DM Roger and email them and everything else short of a smoke signal to get a direct account—however nobody has replied. I figure if anybody can get through to them it is you guys. I am not looking for free shit or any favors. I just want them to know that there are folks who love a deep-dish 7.75

deck and that I pray they never stop making them. Like a junkie, I buy them by the stacks just for myself. Anyway, if you can tell those dudes thanks and to never stop making their 7.75 deep hell concave, I will be forever in debt. I would be willing to pay for info on who does their wood, so I can buy a stack of blanks with this mold and never go insane.

Nate Sherwood

Tell them your last name is Broussard and you'll get free boards for life. —T-ed

BACK SCRATCH

Can you please post my friend's company on the Thrasher Instagram? Once we get just one-percent of those eyeballs to buy our shirts, we will then pay for the promotion. And then as our brand grows, we will then have video content to show on your website. It's a triangle business model.

Upward Spiral

Triangle business model? Sounds more like a pyramid scheme. —T-ed

HIGHER LEARNING

Do you need a college degree to work for Thrasher? I'm guessing you need one, right? Otherwise every random person would apply to work in the skate industry.

Jake Bonner

We'll have to agree to disagree about degrees. —T-ed

"Do you need a college degree to work for Thrasher?"



JEFF COOPMAN, TORONTO, CANADA

NAME CHECK

I bought your mag for the first time in over 20 years. I can't believe how insanely good people have gotten. I guess skating has just passed me by. I've never heard of any of these dudes. Thanks for a trip down memory lane.

Keith Olson

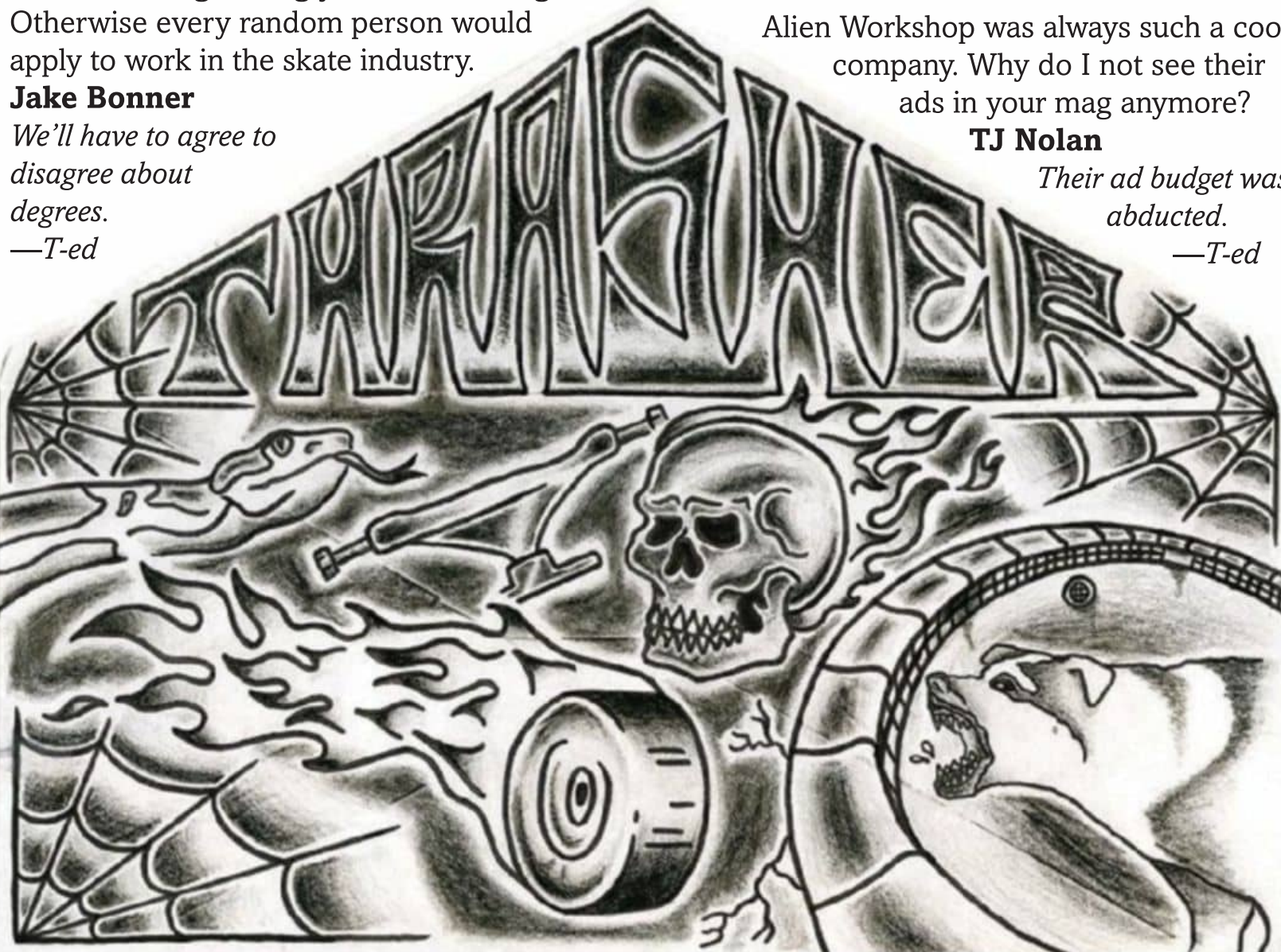
Rest assured, they've never heard of you either. —T-ed

CLOSE ENCOUNTER

Alien Workshop was always such a cool company. Why do I not see their ads in your mag anymore?

TJ Nolan

Their ad budget was abducted. —T-ed



BEN POWELL, FELTON, PENNSYLVANIA
FOR PRIVACY, ALL ENVELOPE RETURN ADDRESSES HAVE HAD MINOR DIGITAL ALTERATIONS.





LEFT TO RIGHT: ROBERTO AREVALO, ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA
ANGELA EVANS, WILSONVILLE, OREGON

LOST FOOTAGE

My skate crew is losing its stoke. We are all mid-30s, weekend warriors trying to get clips for our third and probably final homie video, *Gnarlestone III*. Our filmer dropped his hard drive that had all of our clips and edits. We lost everything except for a few rough cuts. One of my buddies, who never wanted to see his footage until the premiere, had all of his clips wiped out. Now he literally wants to go back to every spot and redo his tricks. Nobody wants to be near him when he has another meltdown trying to double-kickflip body varial on a bank. Are we doomed to relive this skate purgatory? How can we move on?

Will Sautter

The Homie Bro Code (section 132.C) says you're obligated to re-film the video. —T-ed

BREATH MINT

My first boyfriend and I had nothing in common but skating. We were just kids, having fun skating parking lots and waxing spots with crayons. (It works.) He was my first kiss. After the kiss, I coached him into landing his first ever tré flip, never even having done one myself. I felt like a physics god about that. I credit his success to myself and my

undeniable kissing skills that pushed it over the edge and caused him to succeed.

Anyway, we are not together anymore. If anyone needs help tré flipping you can give me a call.

Ella Gregory

Fun fact: Wheatberry has never landed a tré flip. —T-ed

IN EXCESS

I like skaters who don't necessarily have an endless bag of tricks but they make things look good. I'm thinking of Donger, Ethan Fowler, Tony Trujillo, Nate Jones and Levi Brown, for instance. Nowadays, skaters are in a race to learn every single trick that's existed. People need to chill.

The 90s Were Better

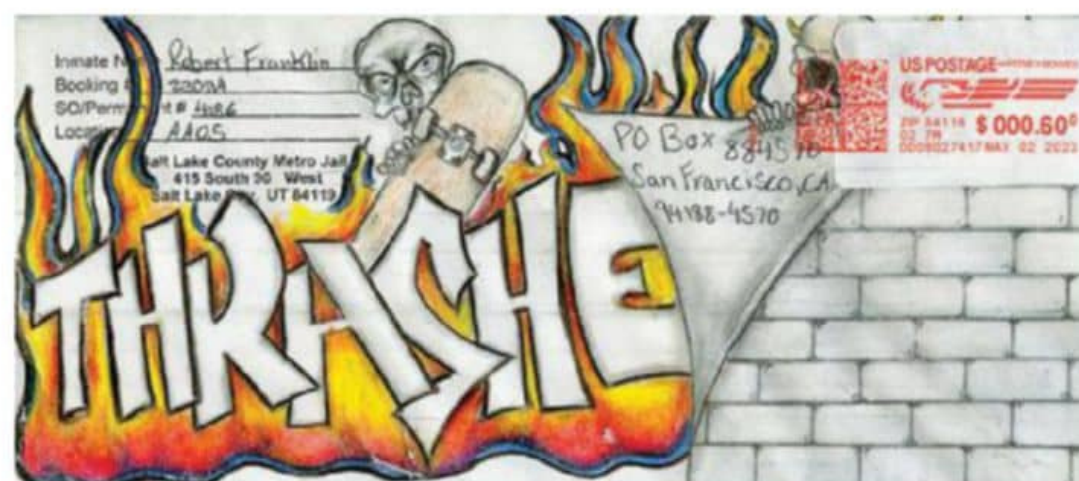
Trick selection is becoming a lost art. —T-ed

PRICE POINT

Just sending love to all the skate shop owners out there. They are so important to skating.

Jason Martinez

Without core shops, the industry would have a core meltdown worse than Chernobyl. —T-ed



ROBERT FRANKLIN, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

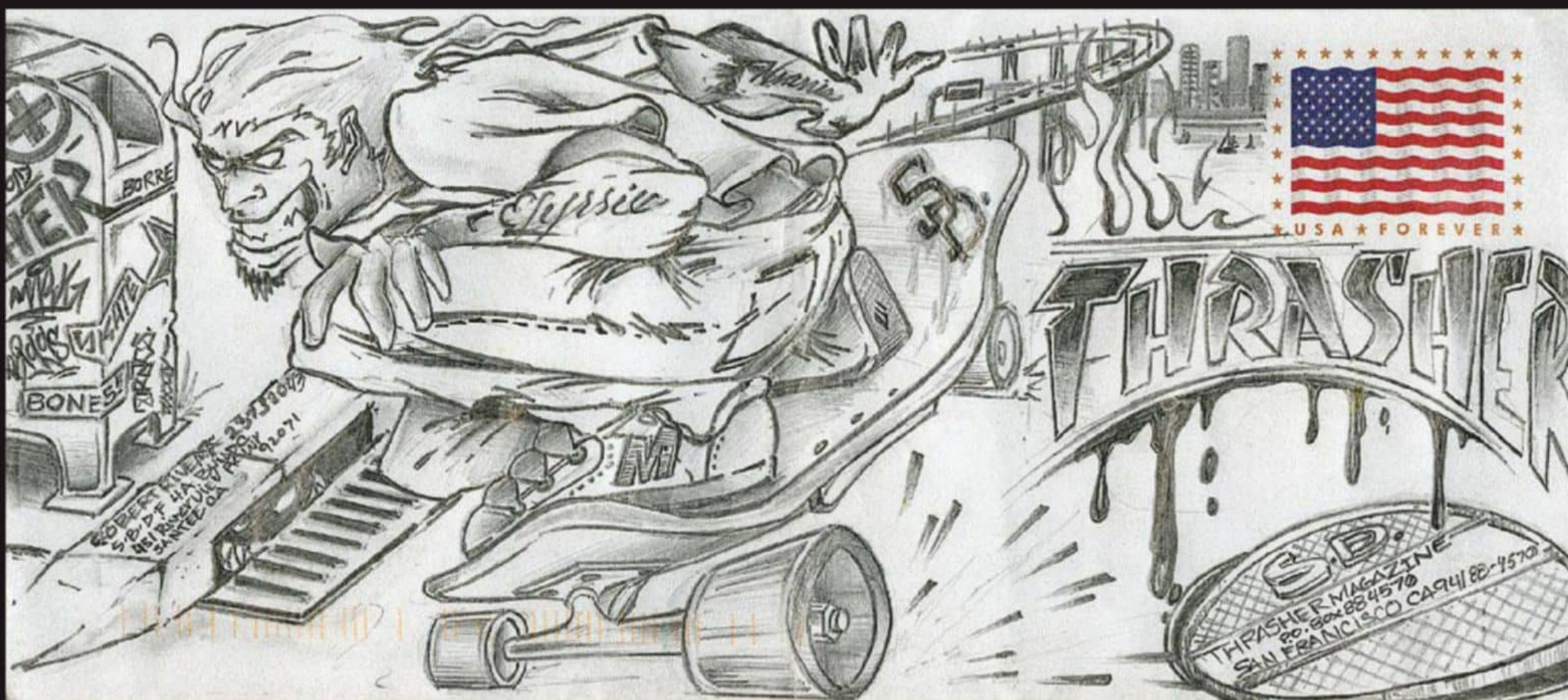
“Our filmer dropped his hard drive that had all of our clips and edits”

RIP GRIP

I work next to a factory where they make kids' clothes. In their loading-dock dumpster they threw out long sheets of hook-and-loop fasteners, more commonly known as Velcro. All of these sheets had adhesive on one side. Just for the hell of it, I cut and laid a loop sheet on top of an old board, and I put hook sheets on the bottom of some old shoes. It worked! The Velcro was pretty grippy but I could ollie and I did a kickflip.

Darren Gillison

Trying to reinvent the skateboard? Get a grip. —T-ed



ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH: ROBERT RIVERA, Santee, California

Envelope of the Month winners receive free T-shirts. Inmates must give a separate address for the prize to go to. Include shirt-size.



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Simon Bannerot squeezes a wall crawl behind Rick Howard

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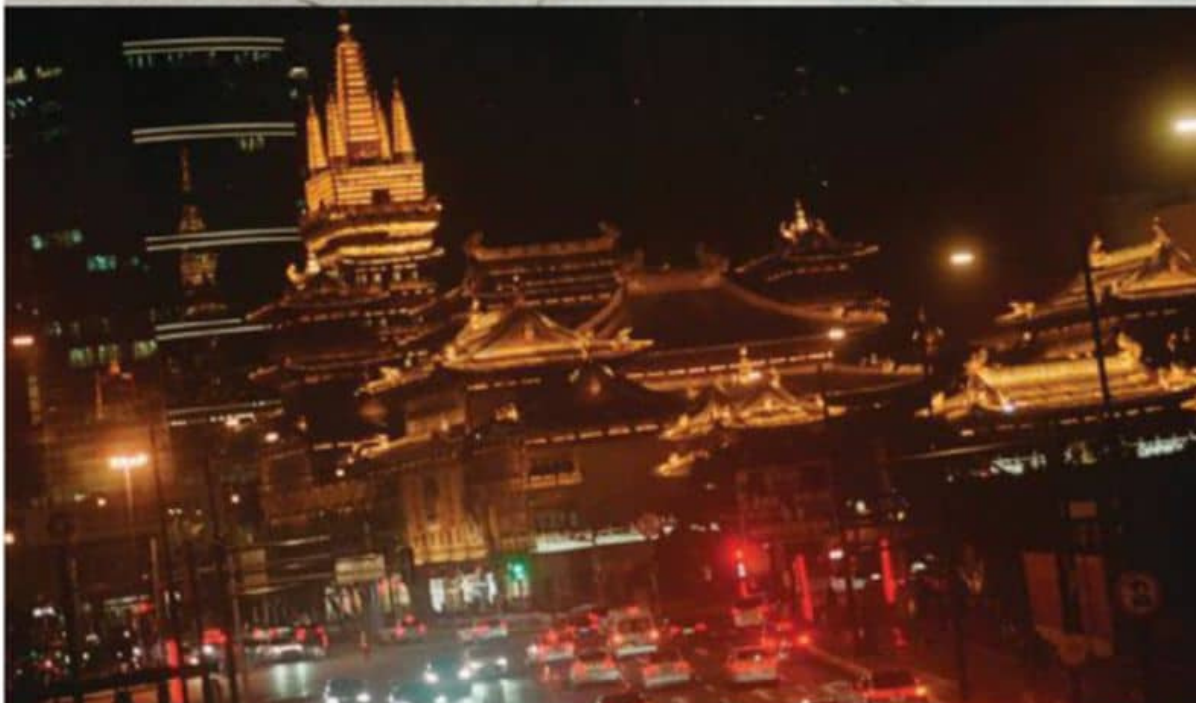
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BY SKATEOVATION





MARK GONZALES Casper Stall



ADIDAS.COM/SKATEBOARDING





MONTANO

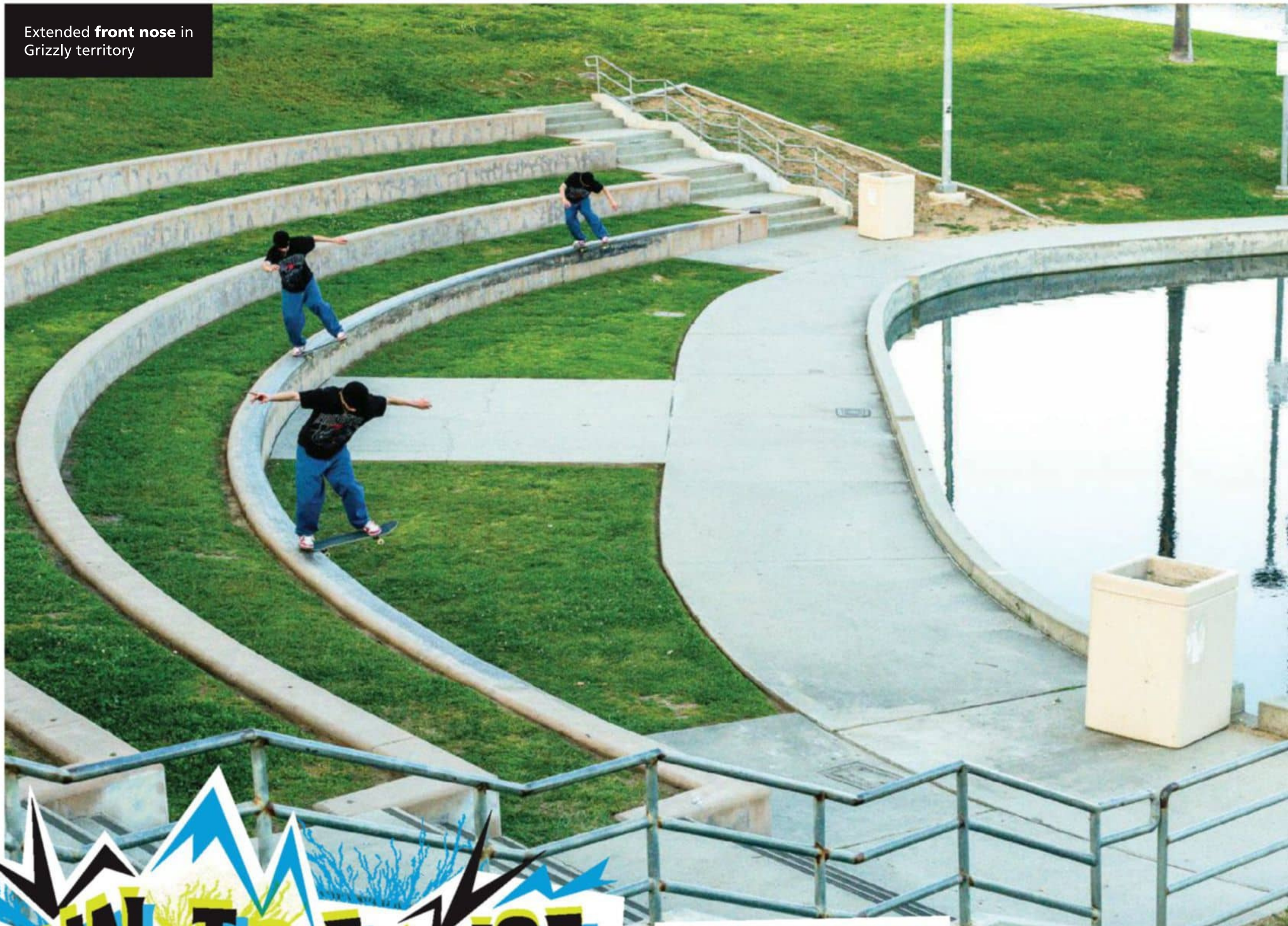
Sammy's latest colorway of The Surplus – a premium leather shoe featuring his signature art molded into the sidewall of the outsole. Tested and developed for skateboarding by Sammy. The Surplus White/Montano is available now.

“He either sets up a new board or re-grips his current one every time he goes skating”



Paul Machnau **front 5-0d** this beast on King of the Road in '06, earning the Phelper's Delight award. Filipe pays homage in '24. It's just as gnarly 18 years later

Extended **front nose** in
Grizzly territory



LUNATIC FRINGE



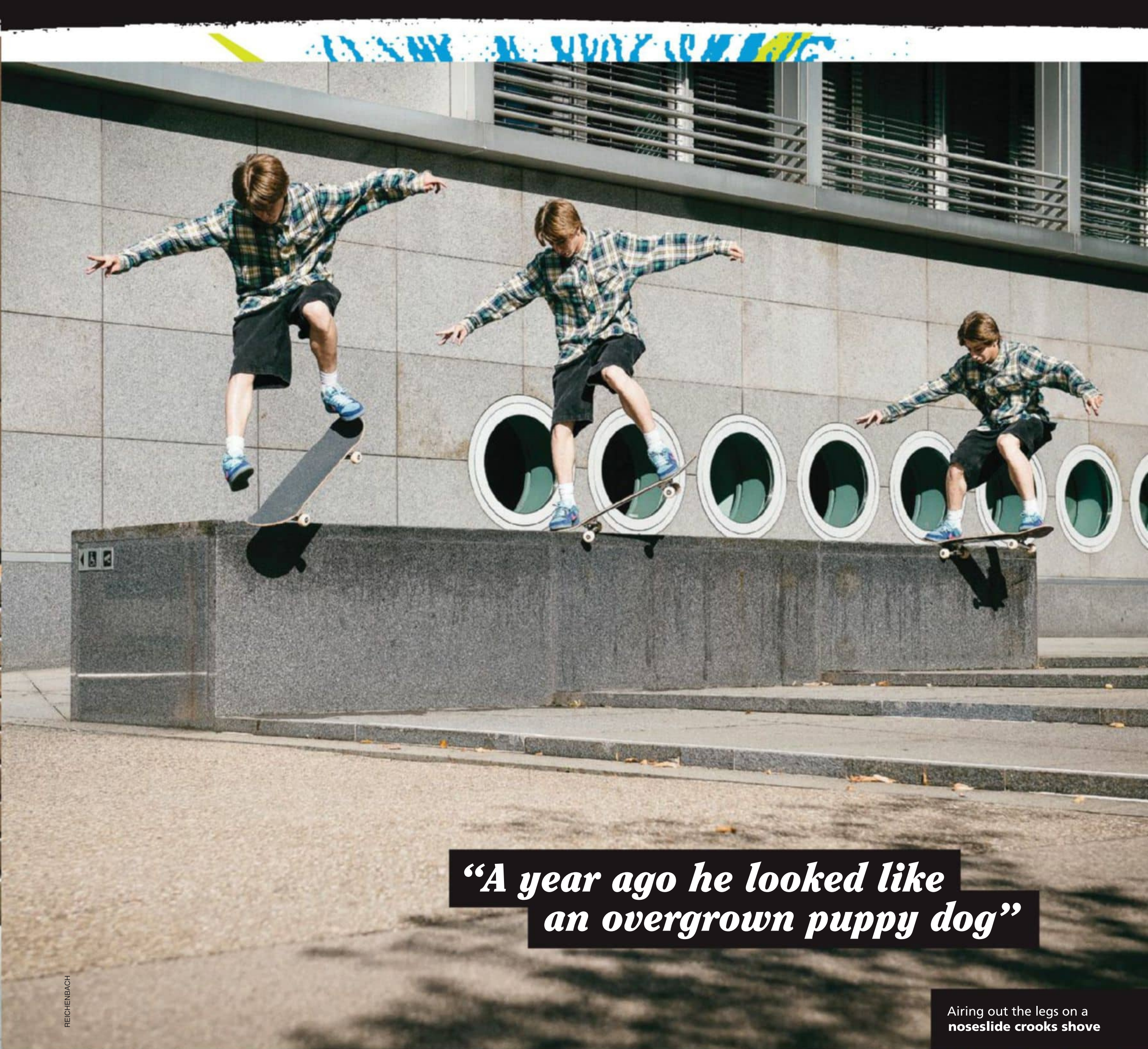
FILIPPE MOTA

Hmm... **Filipe Mota**. Why does that name look familiar? Oh, right. He's on the cover of this freaking issue! Talk about skipping to the front of the line. When Filipe migrated from Patos de Minas, Brazil to the US at the age of 12, he spoke zero English. On his first day of school, he couldn't even find his classroom, much less converse with his teachers or classmates. That feeling of alienation could be what steered him towards homeschooling, or perhaps he just needed more time to rip. Regardless, if/when he gets kicked out of his current scholastic program, he's gonna have all the time in the world to skate. Or perhaps he could just get a job at Guisados since he eats there every damn day anyway. Although completely unafraid of annihilating his body, Filipe does suffer from arachnophobia and ophidiophobia along with having an extreme aversion to dirty griptape—so much so that he either sets up a new board or re-grips his current one every time he goes skating. A year ago he looked like an overgrown puppy dog—feet and hands disproportionately huge in comparison to his body—but now on the cusp of legal adulthood he looks like a regular-ass human being once again (although he does appear larger every time you see him). If you run into him in the street and he's looking all herky-jerky, don't be alarmed. He's probably just bustin' the "Just Wanna Rock" TikTok dance trend. How do you say "Kids these days!" in Portuguese? —Howard Upton ♠



Post-macchiato **kicky back tail**





“A year ago he looked like an overgrown puppy dog”

REICHENBACH

Airing out the legs on a noslide crooks shove



Bigflip front board with that fresh-grip scent



Team Knows Better



Patrick Praman in the 440.



OF “RESPECT MY AUTHORITY!”

“Why da haole so mad?
Maybe she just needs to eat”

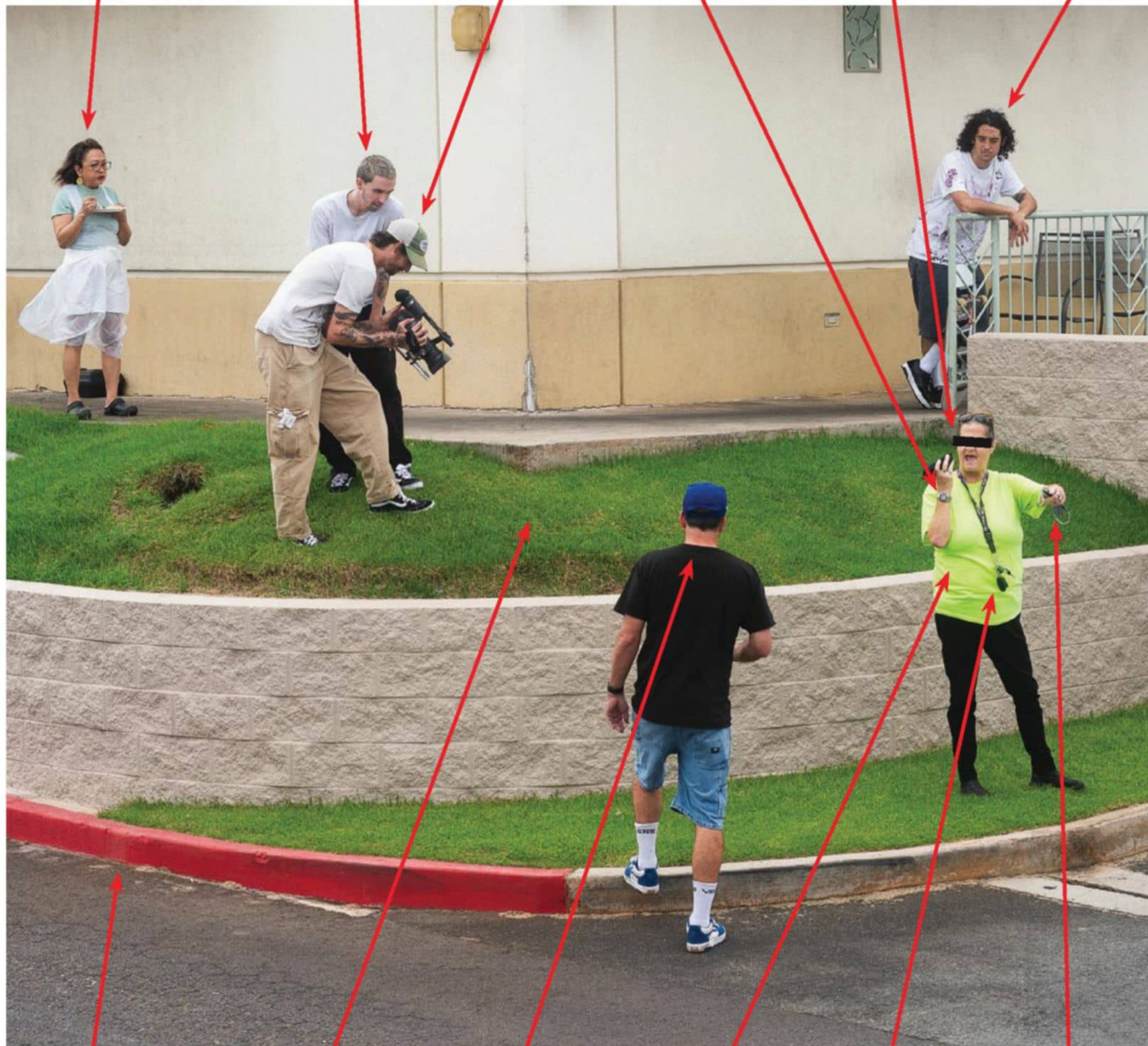
“Think I can clear her?”

“Totally...”

“I told ‘em to leave but it’s
like they can’t hear me!”

Time to chill

“She DOES have a
pretty wet fit tho...”



Old guys post up here

“Shit... maybe I’ll bust it...”

Bunch of shit on a necklace =
Authority

To be guarded with her life

Safety colors

Please, Oh God, don’t
let that be a G-string...



PEDRO ITI - KICK FLIP

PHOTO: RENATO CUSTODIO

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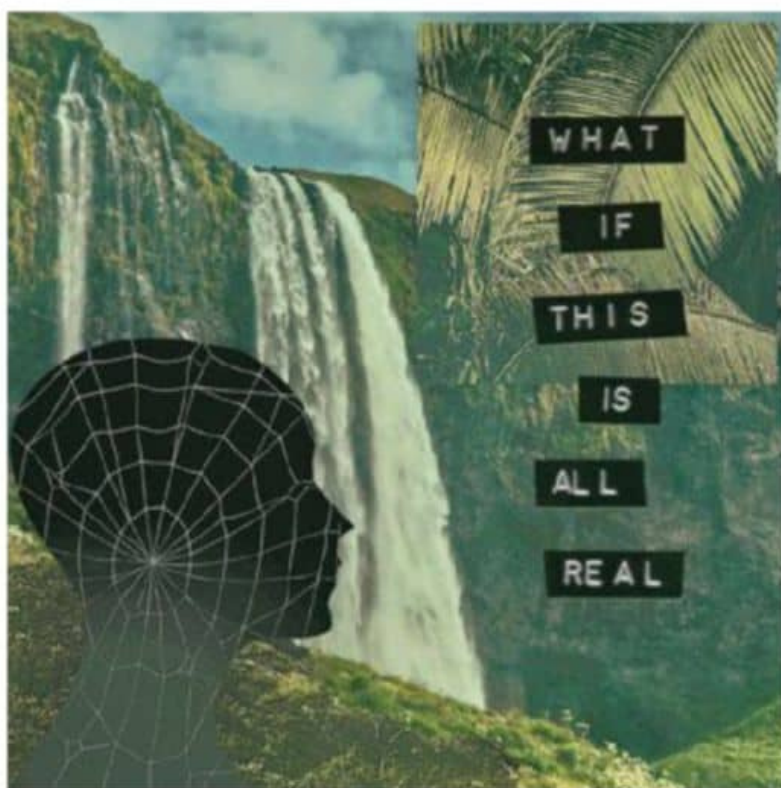


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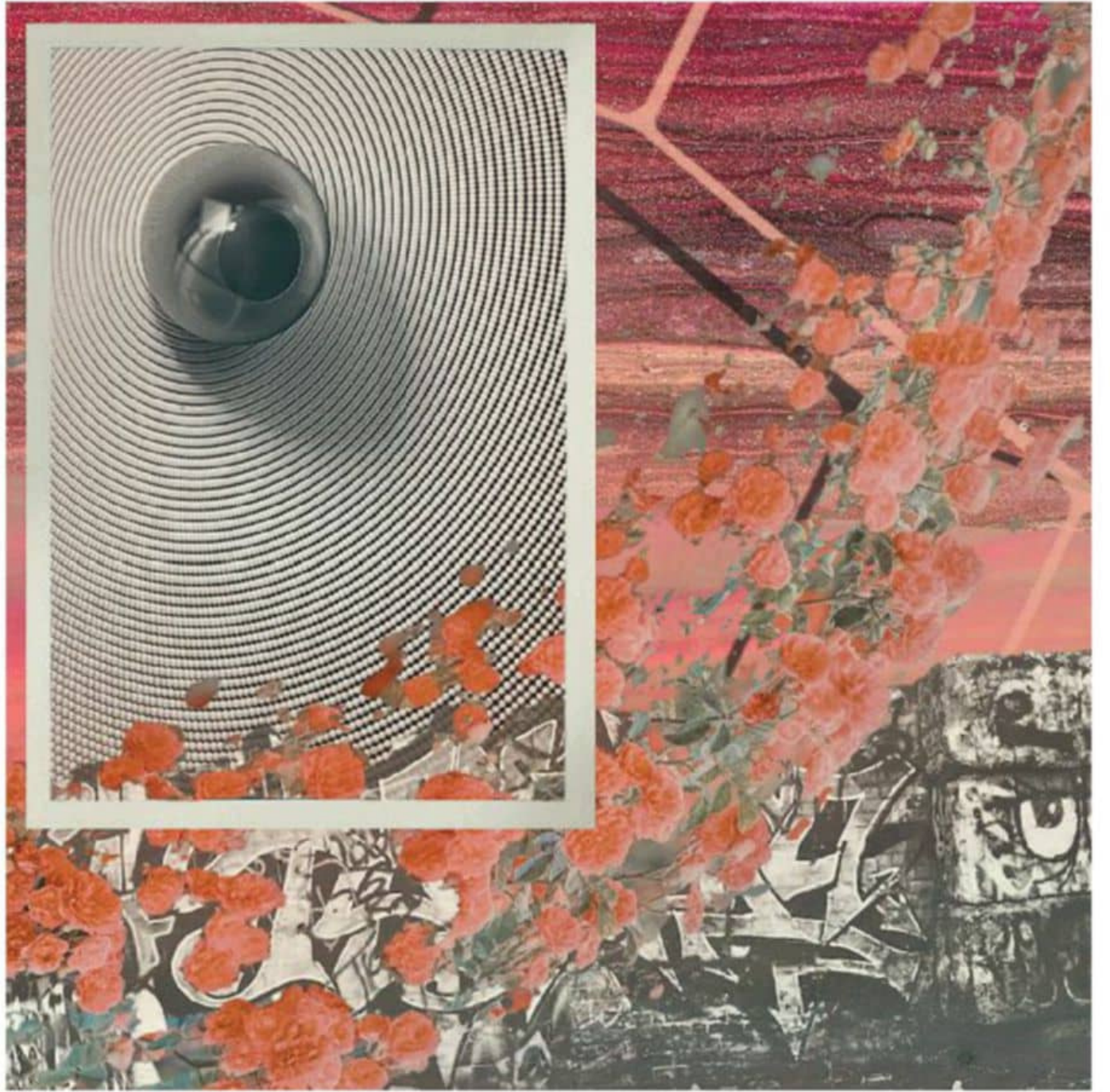
Mason Shorkey, AKA Organic Software, feeds off the creativity that comes with being a reclusive skater in a small community. That inspiration, coupled with his love of skate-adjacent aesthetics, is what feeds his passion for creating art. He turns the mundane details of our environment into something otherworldly. By harvesting photos from across the Internet and turning them into dreamy digital collages, he creates images that feel equal parts familiar and foreign. Surreal, grainy and dark aesthetics are blended to create sci-fi/nature-based/cityscape mashups that transport the viewer into his unique vision. In his pieces, there's an underlying sense of tranquil chaos that defies traditional boundaries. —*Hive Mind* ♠



ALTO



INSTAGRAM: @ORGANIC.SOFTWARE



“Images that feel equal parts familiar and foreign”





CARIUMA

HOEFLE T20 PRO

Kelvin Hoefler
Front board



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Hermann Stene, NBS into the double black diamond

EPIC SPOTS

TOP OF MASON

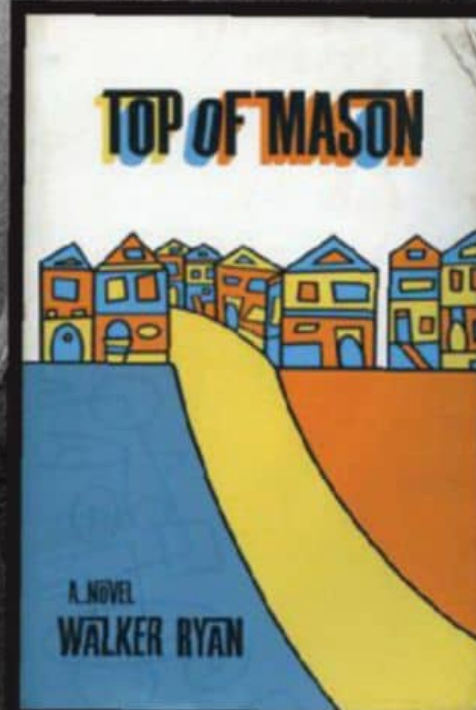
The spot's gotta be epic if there's a book named after it! The rail at the top of Mason street is located on Nob Hill, where the railroad tycoons built their mansions to overlook The City. Up until the pandemic, it was the most expensive real estate per square meter in the entire world. It's home to some of San Francisco's premier luxury hotels, including the Mark Hopkins, whose entrance on the corner of California and Mason features a stairwell with a tall-and-long-but-otherwise-pretty-perfect 11-stair handrail. The rail itself is beefy but nothing too insane by today's standards. What's kept it from an onslaught of ABDs is the 33-percent-grade sidewalk of serrated doom that awaits you after landing your trick. It's hectic. Jesse McMillan sparked it off with a boardslide in FTC's *Penal code* in 1996, then Frank Gerwer hit it with a monumental front board in 2003's *Cash Money Vagrant*. For the next 20 years or so, tricks were few and far between. Robert Lopez Mont lipslid it, Ryan Lay nollied over the rail and Daniel Dubois kickflipped it, but these guys would land their trick, roll for a few feet and then jump off instead of taking the incline. Frankie Spears was the first to take it down the whole sidewalk after switch 180ing over the rail in 2018. He didn't like how his arms looked in the footage so the clip never came out. In 2020 Walker Ryan published a novel about a young skater living in San Francisco and named it after the spot. There's a section in the book where the main character and some friends are looking at it and the filmer says, "This hill is too gnarly. No one's gonna bomb this from the top. This is one of the only hill spots where it's okay to land and just run out." But In 2022 the GX boys changed that. The final sequence in *Right Here for*

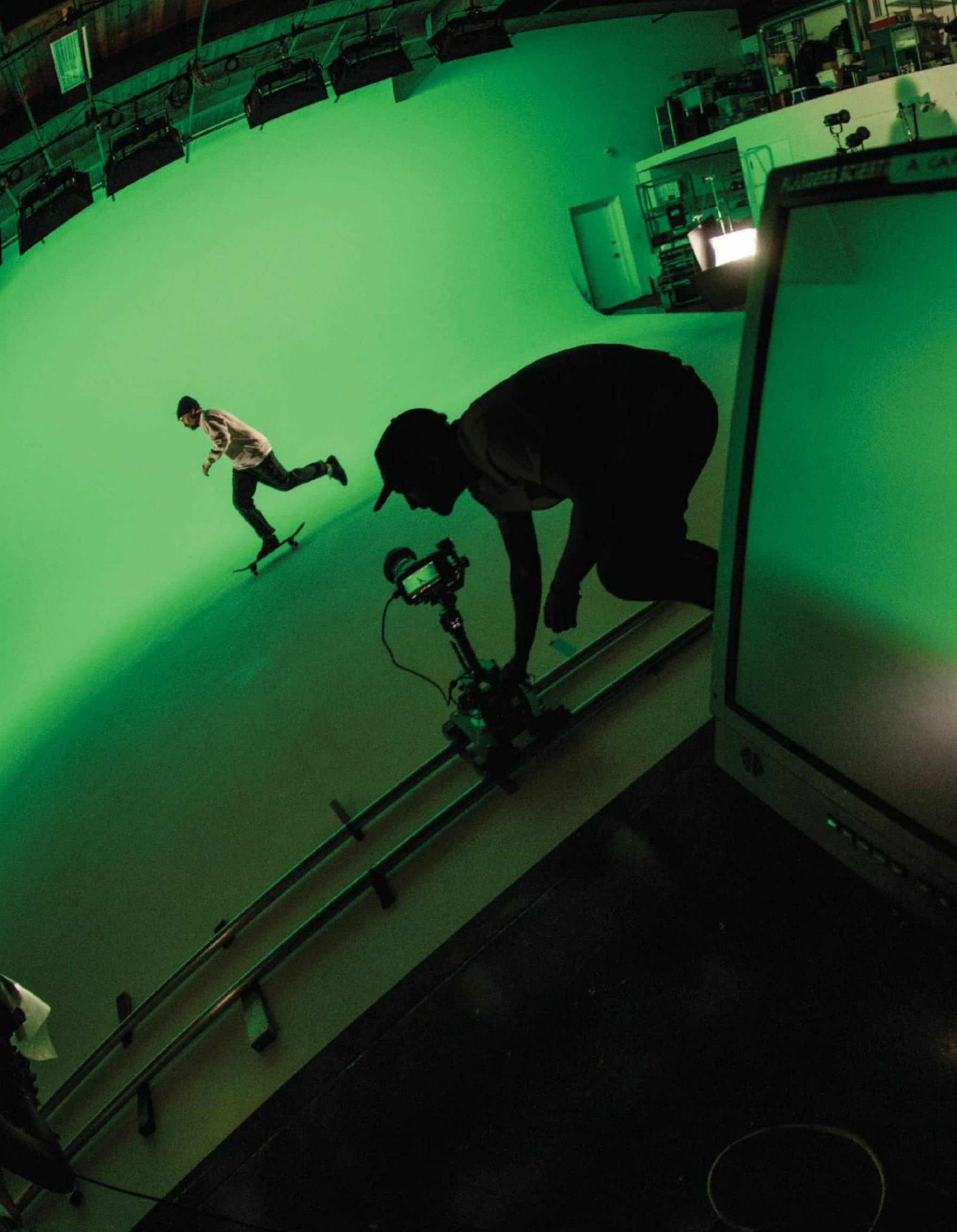


Pablo was pure shock and awe—Taihou Tokura and T-Funk did their tricks and it was the first time the world saw anyone take the whole sidewalk. Then Jeff Carlyle back lipped it and it was jaw dropping—he made it down the first block, through the intersection and into two more gnarly hills in the middle of tourist traffic all the way down to Market street. (Instagram footage later revealed that T-Funk did all the hills as well.) Today, the industry standard is to just bomb down the sidewalk for the entire first block after landing your trick, which is still super gnarly. Fresh in our minds are the epic front crook cover and the surprise kicky front board ender from Miles Silvas which sealed the deal for his current SOTY status. The top of Mason is a mandatory skate tourist destination if you come to SF. Seeing the hill in real life is the only way to understand how treacherous it really is. There's plenty of tricks still up for grabs here, but be careful. Bring your spotters and hold onto your hat; you're in for a hell of a ride if you wanna step to this thing. —Tom Shattuck ♠

**"It was the first time
the world saw anyone take
the whole sidewalk"**

Robert Lopez Mont (RIP),
lipslide in '05







asics An ASICS ad about research,
with Gino Iannucci.



'ZINE THING

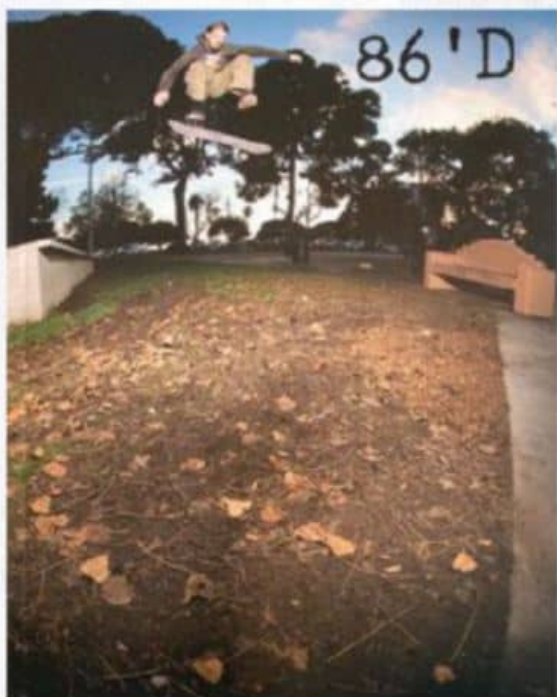
BALANCE #11

Great to see another new(ish) issue of *Balance*. This Philly mag has interviews with three generations of rippers, and is mostly pools, vert and DIY spots including a piece on the Rip Ride Rally and a brief ode to the Q-Man (RIP). It's black and white, but there are a few color versions floating around. Check @balanceskatemag for details on how to grab one.



86'D, #11

Damn, haven't seen this one before but holy shit—it's stacked: full color, nice paper, tight photos. It's based out of Long Beach, CA, and is a little slicker than most zines. There are some interviews and a ton of photos—mostly street, but some pools, pipes and parks, too, and definitely some names you'll recognize. There's a section of photos of the rap group Griselda and the artist Van Eggers. It's pretty well distributed and free where you can find it, or check 86dmagazine.com.

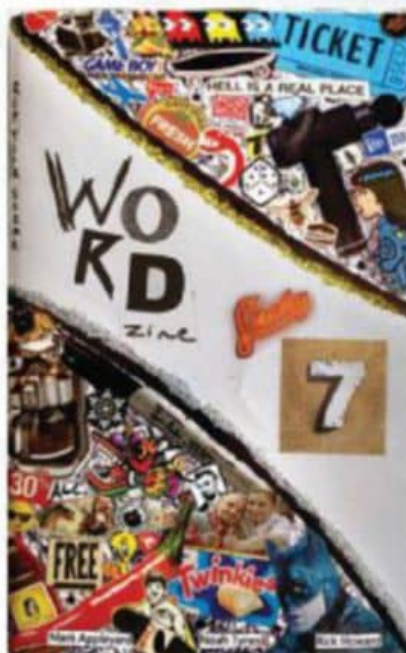


WORD ZINE, #7

Another solid issue from north of the border, this one is jam packed with a few color pages (but they're mostly ads). Speaking of ads, instead of tongue-in-cheek spoofs we now have

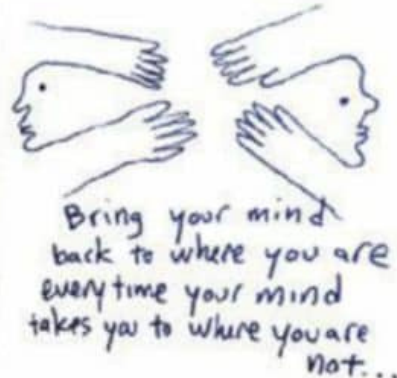


real ads for weed shops/brands, hash edibles, coffee and alcohol. *Advertisers figuring out their core constituencies?* There are great interviews with Rick Howard, Noah Tynes and Mark Appleyard, reviews, mini interviews, random photos and comics, much of which is in small, easily-digestible sections for multiple trips to the shitter. Check @word_zine for intel.



DEEP REST #2

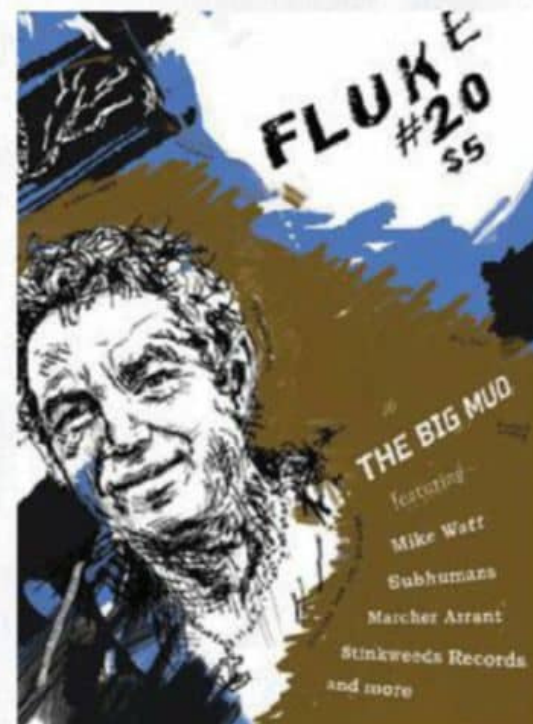
John Gardner is always evolving. He's been a ripping pro skater on Creature, a DC shoes rider/team manager and now he's dedicated himself to advocating for mental health. This zine is filled with practical tips on how to address obsessive negative thoughts which underlie anxiety and depression. Our modern world of endless distractions is making us sick with self-inflicted stresses. John touches on the



importance of meditation, calming breath techniques, how not to overreact to negative emotions and much more. For info, check out nothingbuttoday.com

FLUKE, #20

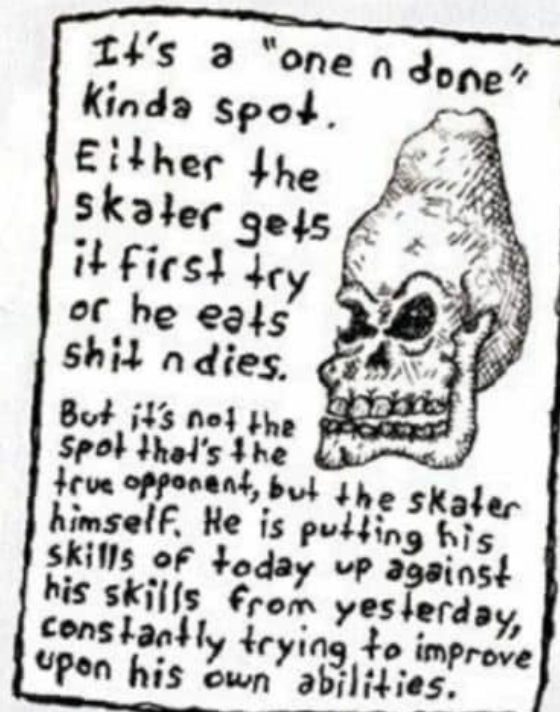
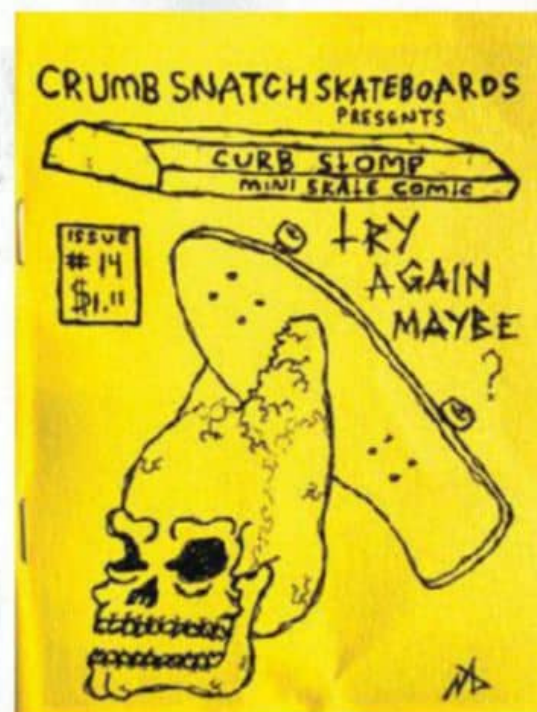
Themed "The Big Mud," this edition of *Fluke* has stories of the road and skating, including and interview about origins and trajectories with Mike Watt, and the Subhumans (UK) interviewing their roadies in the US. Non-band interviews include Marcher Errant, a man who wanders on foot, and with Kimber, owner of Stinkweeds Records in Phoenix, who describes creating and nurturing an inclusive scene. Mike Crespino writes about skateboarding as a savior, guru and means of connection. It's full of ruminations and folk wisdom (although I definitely think the durian, the true king of fruit, does not taste like "gnawing a rotten fart off of a turkey bone"—it tastes like heaven), common sense and difficult road trips whose stories told later make it all worthwhile. It's literary, it's poetic and it's in part a touching tribute to departed friend and skater Matt Limo (RIP). Send \$8 well-concealed cash to *Fluke Fanzine*, PO Box 1547, PHX, AZ 85001 or check 'em online at fluke.bigcartel.com.



CONFUSION, #34

Globally-oriented and DIY focused, *Confusion* is a killer combination of underground spots and some classic tales. Italy, Germany, the USA, Mexico, France—all covered in this one. *A Howard Johnson's pool in San Diego? Abandoned waterpark in the Canary Islands? The sad tale of city-mandated DIY destruction in Münster?* Yep. A highlight for me was article about a trip from Germany to California to skate as many pools as possible—23 in 35 days, respectable.

Pool skating is tight knit, and despite some cranky old dudes out there it's heartening to know that there are some who will take a fellow skater with open arms to the most sacred of spots. All color, nice paper, another sick issue: @confusionmagazine.



CRUMB SNATCH, #14

This is a short-but-sweet mini zine/comic with a simple life lesson: sometimes you have to go for it and risk death. Track down a copy to see what happens: @crumbsnatchskateboards. ♠



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WHEN TO SHARE THE PIN

By Ted Schmitz

Art by Michael Sieben

Fuck, it happened—you posted your secret spot to the story and the DMs are coming in. Cascading flame emojis from the homie Gabe? Nice! “Yo, where’s this?” from the rando @McGilliCUTTY? Less nice. Like, pretty wack, actually. We’ve all felt the tension between sharing our hard-earned selfie clips from our undercover gems, but held off from the fear of losing it to the onslaught of more proficient locals. Or worse, what if it becomes the IG flavor of the week, with crew after crew coming to get real clips?! Before you start padlocking the spot—or heaven forbid, stop posting—we got an easy-to-follow guide for the best way to keep your pins in the right rotation or off the grid. Context is everything, after all.

POOLS

Let’s start with the easiest one. I know firsthand that the rule is “pool for pool.” There’s no way around it. They wanna scratch cope on that killer kidney you found with your fellow Dickies-clad cavemen? They better be ready to give up the other kidney. And if you ever need one in return, just give them the address to Omar’s old house: 20 City Blvd, Orange, CA 92868.

HANDRAILS

This is a bit trickier, literally. The watermark of handrail skating has more or less been on an ironic decline for the last 10 years—the 29-stair noseslide excluded. This means you’ve got a pack of dogs fighting for the same 12-stair-Smith-grind bone. If you dare to share your secret Zero-Sunday spot, make sure it’s only gonna go to someone way better than you. It’s better to be one-upped than to have someone eat your lunch. If you found the rail, you are allowed to take it out. You don’t know what the ADA is, but your dad has an angle grinder. Risk the body; protect the ego!

LOS ANGELES

“Sick house spot, G! Is that by Seabirds Kitchen?” It’s a trap. They want your pin and their vid is coming out before yours. You can give up the addy if they can spare a box. They probably work at FA or Hyperion. If they don’t got the product to swap, leave ‘em on read. Sure, the only reason you know about this spot is ‘cause it’s right across the street from a ride-on grind with a noticeable street sign you saw in a WKND video, but still. Everything in America is transactional, and it’s basically *your* house... spot, G.

SAN FRANCISCO

If you post a hill with a street sign in it, that’s your fault. Still, if someone wants to join the thrill ride, they gotta start as a spotter on Mason first. Sadly, even if they aren’t a team player, they’ll find it anyway. The City’s only seven-by-seven miles, you know.

NEW YORK

This one is also pretty easy. Never. Just send them some other pin from the *Quartersnacks* map to be a dick. Are people still mean for fun in New York? Yes, yes they are. Also Max skated your spot in *Call Me 917*, but you can’t be expected to remember anything of the local lore. You’re from Chicago.

WASHINGTON D.C.

This conversation doesn’t really apply to you since it’s so easy to type “Freedom Plaza” into Google Maps.

PHILADELPHIA

Same as D.C., just replace “Freedom” with “Thomas Paine.” Oh shit, my bad. RIP.



CHICAGO

Unless you also play guitar or have somehow mastered the art of moderate drinking, the winter is a death sentence for your after-work fun. A few friends going in on a warehouse lease for a few months ain't a bad idea. This time you've even managed to keep it going a few winters! Just make sure no tours come to town where the pros blow it out their grid. Oh yeah, the pin costs its fair share of the rent. Cough up, big dog.

FLORIDA

The New York-Florida seasonal migration is more reliable than a Canadian goose, so be selective with who you share your pre-beach ledge with. If you got a big crew of North Easterners and don't wanna give up the goods, just take them to the Ed Selego Hubba and say you misheard what spot they were talking about or that you assumed one of them was Australian. Either way, it'll be too late to stack on anything worth traveling for so just tell everyone to get their bathing suits on. They didn't really come to skate anyway.

"You're keeping secret spots as you barrel toward middle age?"

LONDON

You can share 'em all you want. Nobody's goin'. Who's got the patience for figuring out intricate lines to avoid weathered patches, thousand-year-old cracks and feral American tourists? Your loyal follower already forgot about their "Where's 'at, mate?" DM. They're at the pub, 4,000 posts past it now.

CHINA

I've never been but I've seen *Fully Flared* and *Ride the Sky*. I guess you can give some of those icy ledge spots up for a cellphone that lets you use Western Instagram. But honestly, it's just TikTok now, so I don't think we'd have anything to offer. Protect that 29-stair rail at all costs.

PARIS

They already got to it in 2023. And if they didn't, it's all over this summer. Désolé.

ARIZONA

Nobody skates ditches anymore. The homie's asking where the spot is so they can come pick you up to make sure you don't get heat stroke and die alone under an overpass. While they're on their way, just keep playing Broken Social Scene on your bluetooth speaker that's too quiet for the open air and pretend it's 2008.

PORTLAND

Y'all see that Cal's Pharmacy vid? Portland's got spots! If someone wants your low-key wallride or perfect garage curb, they have to buy your synthwave or noisecore album on Bandcamp. It's unclear who gets the shorter stick here.

THE NEW DIY

Tell them to make it to the 'crete and greet or forever hold their peace. PBR and Little Ceez also used to get the pin, but now, half the crew's gluten intolerant and needs to get back to the fam in two hours. The only other way for them to get in is if they're bringin' the Antihero team *with* Julien. No Larry, no deal.

DYING SCENES

The sad fact is, it's been a minute since a video game brought in a million skaters overnight, so you might be noticing a dwindling in your modest ranks. Don't worry; your enviable manny pad in the garage you can only skate at 2 AM will keep your cohort's stoke high. Share it with everyone who asks. Fuck it, post the pin in your group chats unsolicited! Also, try to make sure your friends don't have kids. Just be around them all the time, and say things like, "Sex is only for jocks and bros," or something. No new kids might be how you got into this mess in the first place though.

OVER 30

Come on, that's embarrassing. You're keeping secret spots as you barrel toward middle age? I'm sorry; you aren't going to film a part again. Your spot is not that good. And honestly, if you don't learn a little grace and charity at this stage in your life, your fiancé is going to leave you. I'm talking to you, Brandon.

TRUTH IS, secret spots are more or less over. The feeds have softened our brains to let anything stay precious or hidden for more than a swipe in time. And way too often, keeping places on the DL wasn't to preserve the fun for your crew without losing the spot to the heat, it was about making sure your own skill and bag of moves couldn't be measured against others' talents. It's easy to get NBDs on something that's NBT. Which is cool, if you're Bobby Puleo—a master of taste at the restaurant where trick and spot are paired perfectly every time. But you're not Bobby Puleo, are you? And it's also true that what's left now on our most famed spots is some sort of puke-inducing combo. But being scared of being outdone or not being the best is

pretty fuckin' humiliating.

Jock shit, if you will.

We should share our playground, or just agree that we're awful, selfish and insecure people. I'm cool with that, too. ♠





HONEYMOON

VINCENT ALVAREZ | NOSEGRIND
DICKIES.COM | @DICKIESSKATE



PHOTO BARTON

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VINCENT ALVAREZ

By Oliver Barton

Dead horses, Liquid Swords and endless spot hunting

What's been going on lately, Vincent?

I'm just finishing up a Chocolate project. Sam Smyth hit me up about doing a collab board with *Liquid Swords*, and when he showed me the sample I immediately knew what track we could use. I had all these little ideas of shots and quick clips for a video to go with it. I always liked filming skits and stuff like that, but to take it into my own hands, I was so stoked on the idea and really wanted to do something for it. The hard part was that there was only a little bit of time, but I think doing little stuff for social media and stuff like that, editing little videos, gets me really sparked. Editing is so

fun. If I'm at home and I nail an edit, I'm running around in the house all hyped shouting, *Dude, I got it!* For this edit we were going out at night a bunch which was super fun. It sparked this whole other thing in me where it's not planned and it's 10 PM and you're going to light up another spot.

I noticed you've got your own lights now.

Yeah, shout out to the giraffes! I got the Dewalt giraffe lights; they're sick. They're battery powered so no more generator. You've just got to keep them charged. My buddy James, who works in flooring, brought one out to a session to the DIY in Arcadia and it was so rad. You can use the same batteries that you use with the

drills. As soon as I saw his I knew I had to get some so I hopped on OfferUp and copped two of them. I drove down to Santa Ana to get one and then up to Downey to grab another. The kit was \$200 cheaper! The night sessions really brought me back in time to skating with Ty and lighting up spots at night.

What was it like getting on Chocolate and diving straight into those Ty missions?

Filming with Ty was really fulfilling. I think I really needed that at the time. I felt like I had this little empty pocket and Ty filled it up. I needed that drive and motivation and we matched; that shit worked great. The first thing that we filmed was the intro-to-Chocolate video. I remember mashing the train every day to meet up with him in North Hollywood and—boom—it was on, skating every day in the Valley or out in the IE. Having a filmer that was super down was the thing; a lot of my friends were transitioning into finishing up high school and figuring out what they were going to do with themselves after school was over, so they didn't have as much time to skate. I did,

"I like just jumping in a van with a good vibe and a good crew"

so I just went full force with it. Ty was always onto something. I remember one day he was filming a line and he had a Taco Bell hot sauce packet in his mouth that he was sucking on and he was like, *A dude crashed his car in the wilderness and survived for a couple of weeks off these things!* It's always a little madness that makes you great. Back then there was no pressure at all. There have been fun projects since that, but that was the part that felt like I had the least amount of pressure because we'd get so much footage from going out every day that I wasn't thinking about what was going to be an ender. There was nothing like that at all. That felt so cool. I don't work so well under the structure of, *What's going to be your last trick? You need a line here.* I'm more of a let-it-go, let-it-flow, whatever-happens-happens kind of skater. I do have stuff planned out, but I like just jumping in a van with a good vibe and a good crew and seeing what happens.





From the ramp to the slant, Vincent catches some free air up in the San Gabriel Mountains. **Ollie**

Did being around Ty and Spike influence you with your filming and editing?

Of course I've been influenced by Spike and Ty, but before I met them I was already editing all my own sponsor-me tapes and filming my friends. I'd get all the footage together and then edit it on my friend's computer to send people footage tapes. But from all those years of working with Ty and Spike and seeing how their minds work, that stuff really helps me a bunch as far as looking at things in a different way.

You're a big spot hunter. When did that start?

Ever since I started skating I've been looking for spots. When I was ten or maybe 11, it was just me and my mom at the time and after school she'd still be at work. I'd finish my homework and then me and my friends would take the bus to downtown LA. Lincoln Heights, where I grew up, is close to downtown, so we'd take the bus down there, skate for a little bit and then get back home, but not tell my mom. I feel so bad. She's

going to read this and ask me what the hell I was doing! Ever since then I had that feeling of how much there was to offer in the city if you travel a little and I've been down to look for spots. I don't care—I'll drive an hour just to look at something to see if it's skateable.

How did you get into fixing spots?

I forget where I was, but I was far away from home looking at a spot that needed a bit of work, and I knew if I just threw a little patch down it would be a rad spot. I put down a

patch of cement and then went back there the next week and it was still there—not skated! I had a strange feeling that I hadn't felt before, and I liked it. I got so sparked thinking about how you could make stuff anywhere and have your own little thing going on for you and your friends that the community can all enjoy together. It's like your own not-so-secret thing. That first time sparked me on it, so I started with bits of patch work and then next thing you know I was bringing out frames and shit, building things that were bigger. That's when it starts getting crazy. My buddy Jeff Lopez was teaching me how you need to anchor stuff into the ground and all these other techniques that I thought were a little crazy at the time, but I knew you had to do it. Now it's normal. What really elevated it all was when I came up with the idea to do a project for my Dickies clothing line called the *Great DIY Adventure*. Dickies gave us a budget and I'm so thankful to them. They got me all these concrete tools like trowels, floats, drills and grinders and that was when I got possessed!

What are some of the most important things you've learned from building?

Cutting into the ground before you start so that everything is flush really helps. I think smoothing out the concrete is really important, because for me, lumpy shit is bad.

I know some people think you've got to make it rough so it's harder to skate, but that lumpy shit you can barely ride on or pop is the worst. When I'm building stuff, I always have in my head, *Can I fakie heel off this?* I want to be able to do some tricks. If I can't fakie heel, I'm bummed! I always try and think, *What if someone wants to do a crazy tech trick on this?* I don't want them to not be able to do it because I built something lumpy.

You've skated some of the most iconic spots in the world. How do they compare to an Alvarez construction?

I like skating those famous spots, but for me personally, I see too much of them. I know it's cool to leave your mark on a certain spot. Everyone wants to make their mark, but I always got excited when I was younger seeing something that no one else had skated before, and I feel like new spots still get everyone sparked up and excited. I mean, that's one of the main reasons why we travel—to skate these unseen spots. But if you can't travel, just make your dream spot down the street from your house.

"If you can't travel, just make your dream spot down the street from your house"



Switch back noseblunt in Compton, just down the street from the horse carcass



A lot of the stuff you build is in sketchier areas. Any wisdom on how to navigate there?

Wear the right colors and if you've got bald head, put a hat on. Some of these places are so crazy. I remember skating a spot with Joe Face one time. It was such a good spot, but Joe's car literally got shit on. Some dude did a full diarrhea next to Joe's car and it splattered up onto his bumper. A lot of the best stuff is in the worst places. This scarred me a bit, but one time we were building this sick-ass spot in Compton down by the canals. There were people riding horses by the spot which was really sick. I was thinking how cool it was and then one older guy rode up to us and told us



It's definitely smooth enough for a fakie heel, but Vincent opted for a **pivot to fakie** at Thunderdome

in Spanish, *Hey, man, I think there's a body over there. It looks like he hung himself. He looks young. I don't have a phone but you should call the cops.* We had just finished building and didn't know what to do. We went over to where he had pointed, and from a distance you could see a little shadow, like a silhouette, but it was right around Halloween so we didn't know if it was a prop or something. We went closer and the smell of something dead got really strong. We looked into the canal and saw a dead horse decomposing down there. You could see its ribs with all these flies coming out of it. The smell from the horse was so bad, we couldn't get close enough to where the silhouette was to see if it

was a real body, so we went back around the other side of the bridge and from there we could clearly see it was a young man hanging from an extension cord. I started to run away because there were some homeless-looking people there and I started tripping thinking, *What if they see me looking at them? What if they are assuming I think they did it and come at me?* There was so much going on in my head. I was still in shock when we got back to the car and called 911 as I was driving away. The lady who answered the call transferred me to the sheriff's department. When the sheriff got on the phone, he was being very stern and asked me, *You mean to tell me that you saw a dead body and just left the scene?!* I told him,

Yeah, I was scared. I'm just calling you guys to report what I saw. I'm trying to be a good person! As I was talking to him, I exited the freeway and he said, *You're off Hoover and the 110 freeway and you just left the scene?* They were so quick with that—they were tracking me from the phone call! He kept interrogating me, so I offered to drive back there and all of a sudden he cooled off on me. My whole day was flipped. I was so paranoid. I was waiting for the cops to turn up at my house. I didn't know what was going to happen next. The man who died, I hope his family is okay. I tried looking it up but there was nothing—no report on him, nothing at all, no news, the whole thing just vanished.



The crustier the spot, the bigger the wheels—VA busts out the Tonka tires for this **switch 5-0 180**

That sounds really traumatic. The Thunderdome seems like a nature reserve by comparison. How did you find that place?

That spot is right by a golf course and I went there a long time ago. I want to say I saw a clip of this dude Potato from Pico Rivera there and my buddy Mark knew where it was. When I went there I couldn't believe it—there were so many dream banks with sick little channel gaps and there's these massive metal gates in the back holding all the water back. We skated it a bunch. Skateparks are cool, but there's a weird vibe at some skateparks now but this felt like a street skatepark. We tried to build something there for the *Great DIY Adventure*, but there was a whole crew there with all these dudes in suits and ties looking down at us. We knew it was the worst time to build, but we went for it anyway. We went back the next day. We should've waited until after 4 when the workers leave. When they saw us, they kicked us out and tore the spot down. The most messed up part about it was that they told us we were polluting the water flow with all the concrete, but we made it hollow so that all the water would flow through, and when they demolished it, they left all the concrete in the middle of the water flow! We spent so much time on that for it to get ripped out straight away. I learned from that that you really have to figure out the best time to go skate your spot. It wasn't a waste because every project you always learn and get experience, but you can't always go whenever you want. We've been back there and built some more stuff but stuck to the rules with times, and to this day everything is still standing. Sometimes skaters will get a spot torn down because there's just too much traffic and people start to notice too much, so now I like to skate the stuff I've built for a while before I put anything on social media. Because once it's out, it's not under your control anymore. We had some really legendary skaters come through the Arcadia DIY: Lance Mountain, Richard Mulder, Jason Adams, John Lucero—all these dudes said they had so much fun and I realized that's what it's all about. When I'm building all this stuff, I keep telling myself, *It's going to be good; it's going to be good*. That way it never feels like work. Even though you're carrying ten loads of 60-pound bags, the reward is so much greater than the work.

You skate with SAD all the time. How did that friendship come about?

SAD was the first pro that I ever met. I was at Belmont High School and was skating the manny pad, just ollieing up and trying tricks off, and he was there. I recognized him from *LA County* which was one of the first videos I had. SAD had some stickers with inspirational quotes on them. Usually you'd

expect the stickers would have a brand on them or something, but his just had quotes and I thought that was so cool. After that I didn't see him forever until my homie Caesar, who lives right by SAD, became good friends with him. SAD is a skate rat. He's always ripping so hard; it gets me so hyped. At first he was a bit of a grumpy old man. Uncle SAD, he'd be like, *Hey, man, put your back up straight when you walk towards me*. We were skating together and then he got really hyped on building when we were making the DIY in Arcadia. He came in on that project and has always been super up to help out and learn. Ever since Arcadia we've been skating and hanging out so much. He's inspiring. He tells us, *You're the last group of guys that I'll hang out with that I'll be friends with forever*. SAD skates harder than any of my 25-year-old teammates and he cooks bomb as well. Chef F+!

“The reward is so much greater than the work”

I've noticed your wheels have been getting a bit bigger lately.

Yeah, sometimes they suck because the flip tricks flip so much slower, but we've been skating all these rough mega spots recently. I remember trying a line at the Thunderdome and the ground felt so rough it was really hard to skate, but I went back with some bigger, softer wheels and the line came together way easier. I still have the small wheels, too, though. When I put them on it's definitely a flip-trick kind of day.

What are your plans for the rest of the year?

The *Liquid Swords* project should be out by the time this interview is printed. I'm really hyped for people to see that because it's the first thing where it was my idea. It's not necessarily a skate part, but it's a part to get people hyped on skating and the music, too. I dig that music a lot. Then we're going to put out the Dickies *Honeymoon* video later in the year, and then we've got a Lakai project. Lots of skating. I want to play some music, too. I just got an Akai MPC which has a drum kit on it but it also has a piano board. It's one of the newer ones. I wasn't sure if I should get it or not, but after I bought it I used it for a bit and it was so much fun I had to put it away because I realized I wasn't going to skate for two months if I start messing with it. There's so much stuff you can do with technology now. Not to say that you don't need everyone else, because you do, but there's certain things that you can do yourself now and it's super fun filming, editing, making music and all of that. ♠

DAYDREAM

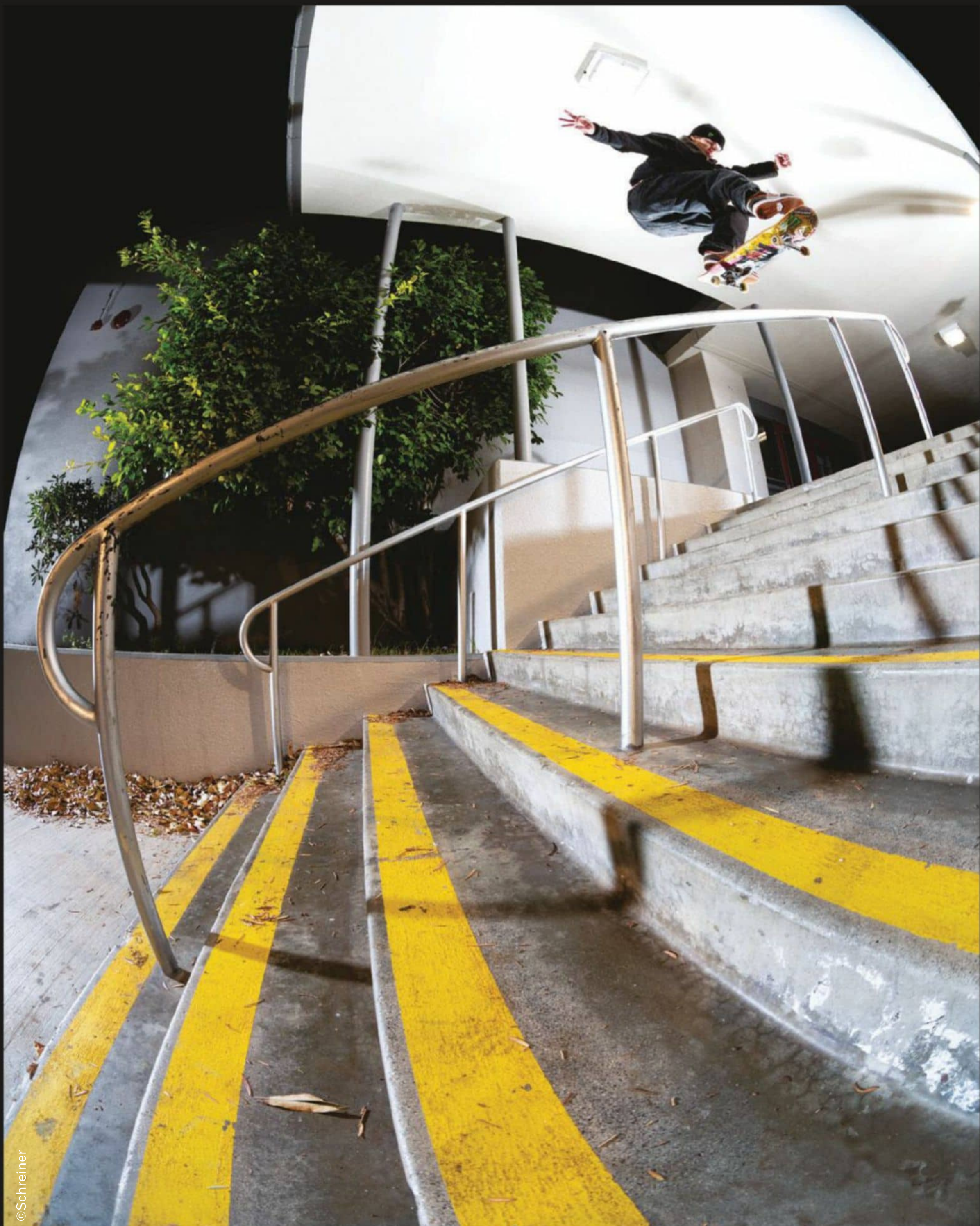
A PRIMITIVE AM VIDEO

**KYONOSUKE
YAMASHITA**

**DYLAN
JAEB**

**FILIPE
MOTA**





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FILIPPE MOTA - KICKFLIP HURRICANE

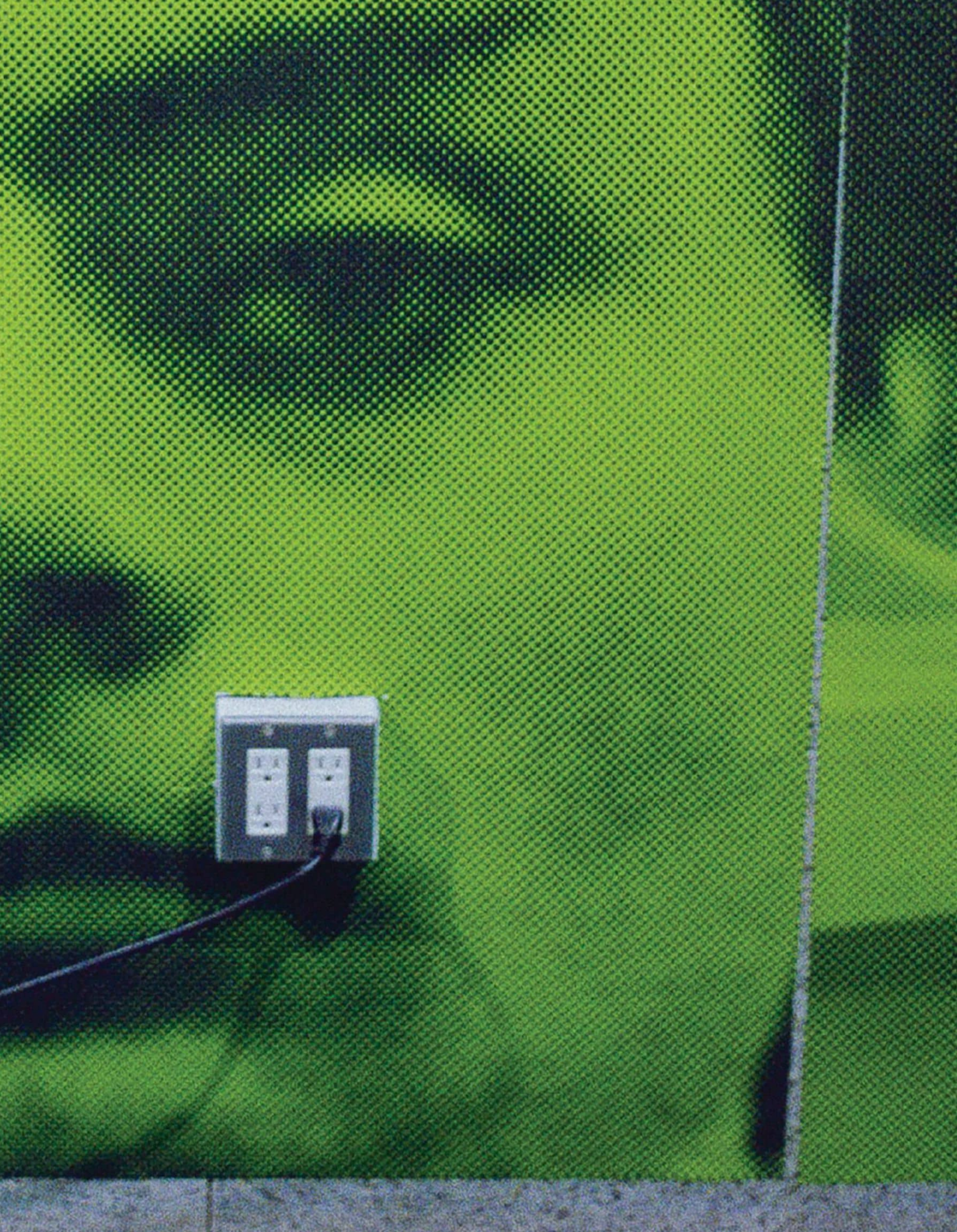




NICK MATTHEWS
TOKYO, JAPAN

JAPAN TOUR MELTDOWN
VIDEO NOW PLAYING

HUF





日本の旅

Awaysted in Kansai

By Adam Anorga
Photos by Daniel Stelly



日本の旅

Previous spread: **Nate Guest** chases away his hangover with a **kickflip** over the river's mouth



Nate snags a quick **caveman nosegrind** on his lunch break



What does it mean to be **Awaysted**? Let's break it down: On skate trips there are moments when you feel absolutely insane. As you disassociate from society, things stop making sense and everything becomes comical. Inside jokes evolve into a dialect and the overwhelming amount of raw experiences create a natural high; daily routines get completely torn apart and you find yourself fully Awaysted. As skateboarders, this is a magical realm—where spontaneous decisions lead to new insight into life and self-discovery. We recently set sail for the southern region of Honshū, Japan's main island and got completely Awaysted.



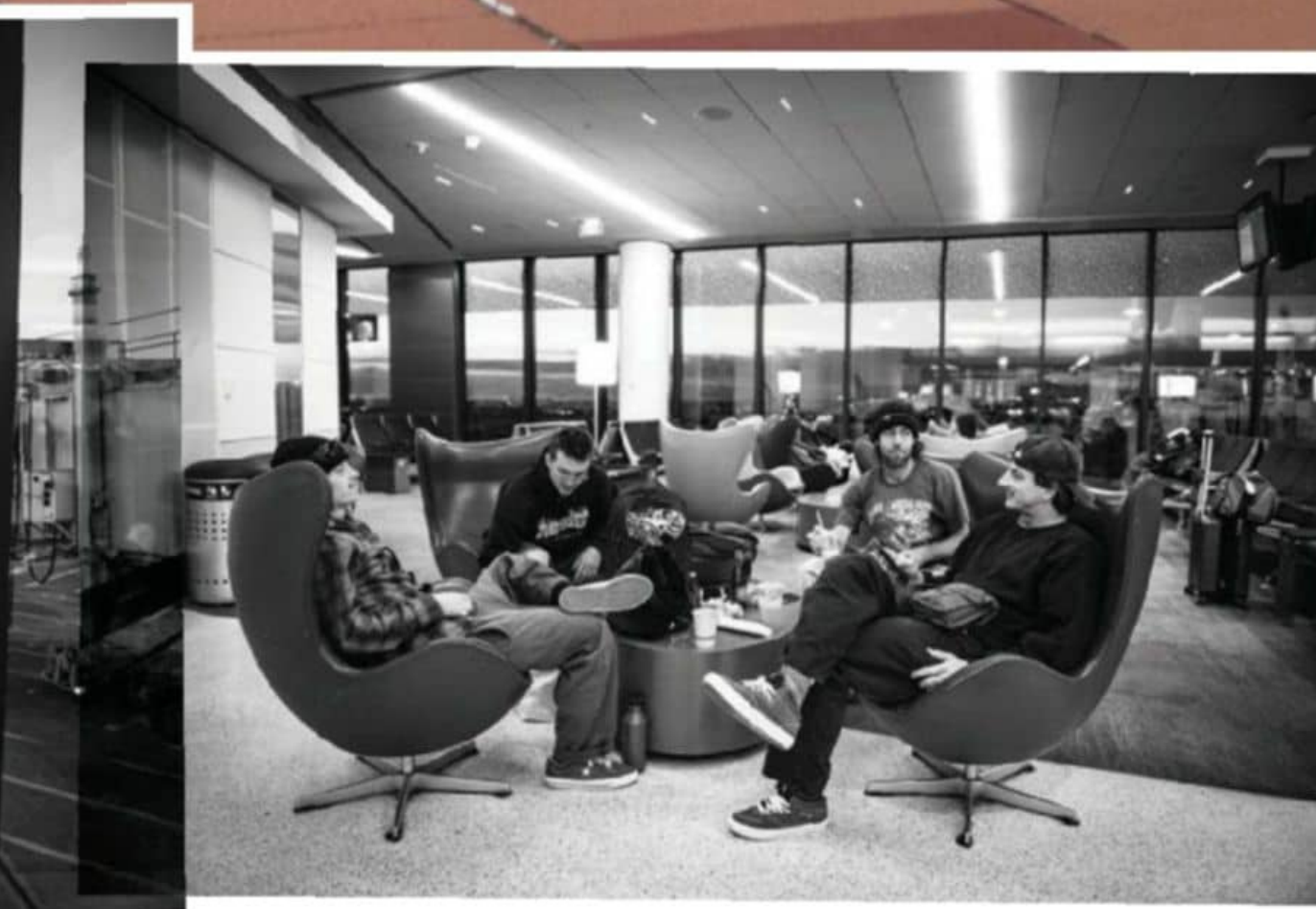
Kenji Kumeda fires it up with **frontside layback**. Age means nothing





**“THINGS STOP
MAKING SENSE AND
EVERYTHING BECOMES
COMICAL”**

Elijah Akerley cranks a **frontside hurricane** at a dream spot. The carve in makes it gnar



Going to Japan is a total culture shock. It feels like the polar opposite of an average US city—the streets are clean, the people respectful and the spots abundant. We were welcomed by Naoto Oda and his crew who picked us up at KIX in their miniature Sprinter vans. About 45 minutes from the airport and over the Kongō-Katsuragi mountain range lies Powerbomb skatepark in Nara. Surrounded by ancient Buddhist temples, our new unholy home for two weeks was equipped with a bunk bed, a dusty outhouse, one hose for showering, a smoking room with couches and a private DIY park that nearly took all of us out. We were also walking distance to our new favorite breakfast/lunch spot: 7-Eleven. The quality of food was equal to or greater than Whole Foods, and even better—it’s cheap and has just about everything you need while traveling abroad. But that was just the tip of the iceberg when it came to our international culinary research. In exchange for a few demos to fire up the locals, Naoto and his family treated us to izakaya dinners almost every other night, which roughly translates to “stay drink place.” In other words, a spot to drink, eat and unwind with friends, family and co-workers. After a day of stacking clips, nothing hits the spot like an assortment of cow organs and a dozen Asahi Super Dry beers. And if you weren’t into that, raw chicken and hot sake were also on the menu.



“THE SCENE IN NARA
IS ALIVE WITH
RIPPERS OF ALL AGES”

Potato smasher **Yuya Yashiki** demonstrates a proper **frontside thruster** at the “Brazil spot.” Style is everything

Despite an overwhelming *Lost in Translation* vibe, we somehow found ourselves at the most amazing spots. Our translator Kota Fujimura did a great job at lining up gems and was often able to deter security with his charismatic personality. That was something we were worried about from the start—not being able to skate because of overzealous guards. Almost every video out of Japan has a ton of night footage because of this issue. We rarely had a problem, though. I brought my camera light and only used it once, which left us with lots of time to relax during the evenings and prepare for the hell ride that the next day would inevitably bring. Most of the time we’d head back to Powerbomb and have a session with the locals. The scene in Nara is alive with rippers of all ages. Young bucks Wataru Kai and Arata Hamada surprised us with their fluent style and tasteful trick selection, while Kenji Kumeda, who is 53, proved that age is just a number by skating and partying with us until the early morning. He’d be the first one awake as well, hassling us to get up so we could go skate the legendary “Brazil spot” in Osaka.



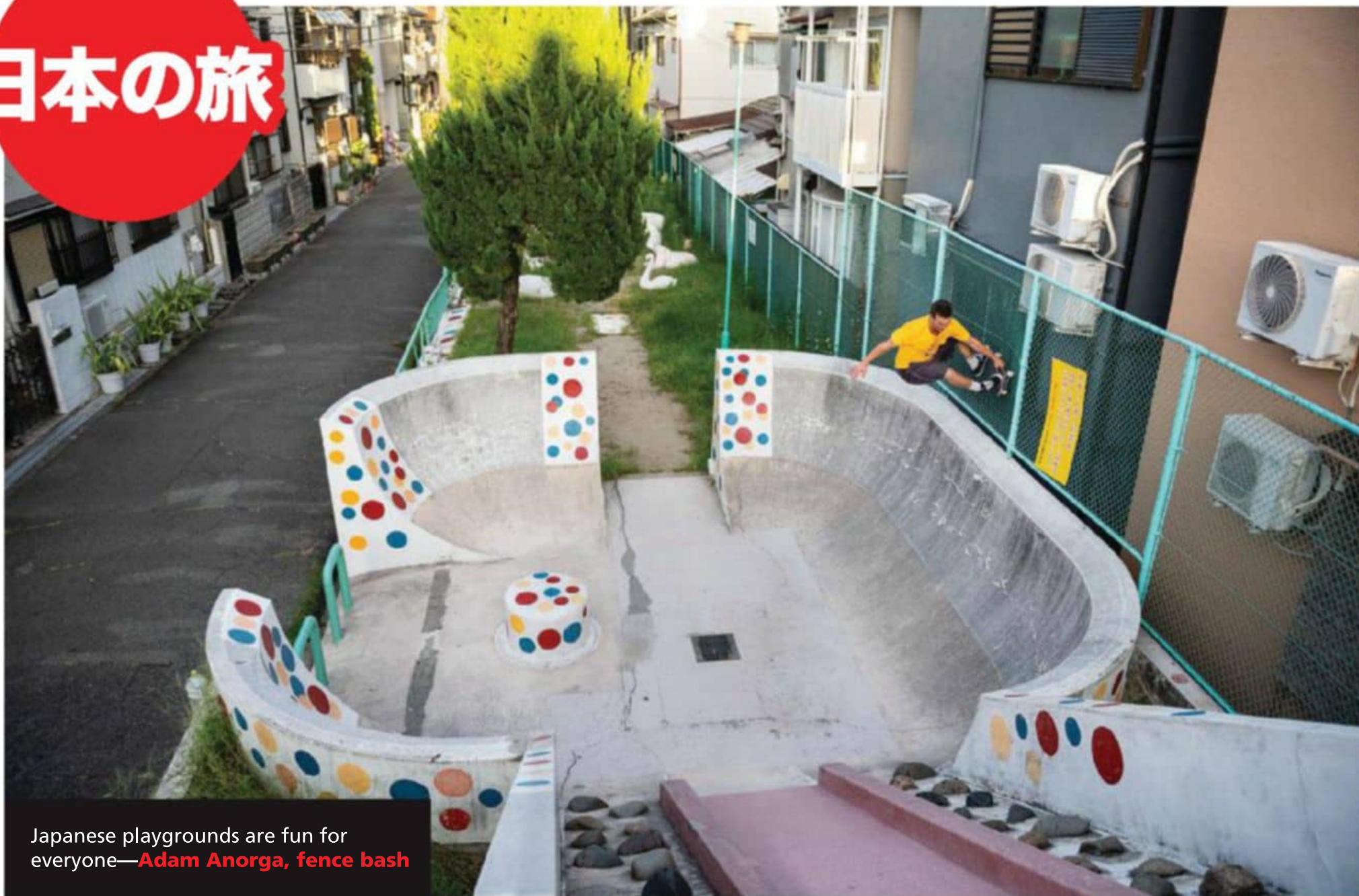


Seegull charges through a fat puddle and blasts a **stalefish** in Powerbomb's leaking pool



Elijah navigates an archaic play structure with a **50-50**

日本の旅



Japanese playgrounds are fun for everyone—**Adam Anorga**, fence bash

The van trips into the city were hectic. Driving on the opposite side of the road had us thinking we'd be roadkill at every intersection. It didn't help that Stelly and I weren't participating in the endless cigarette-smoking marathons. Daniel had kicked the habit a few months before visiting Japan and I could tell he was exercising a lot of willpower by not sparking up. After skating in the blistering sun for hours, we'd pile into the van and crank the A/C—with the windows up—then six of the eight passengers would light up ciggies. That's not the best scenario for somebody who recently quit. Tired of the smoke screen, we decided to leave the van behind and take the train into downtown Osaka for a few days. We skated whatever came our way and watched Nate and Elijah thrive. It was amazing to see them feed off each other as we roamed from spot to spot. Some find it challenging to submit themselves to fate. I personally find comfort in having a plan, but when the energy is high and the guys are doing their thing, you have to just let go and watch it all unfold. And that's the magic of being Awaysted—when you're not taking skating too seriously it usually works out. I think we walked away with ten clips that day. Ecstatic and delirious, we decided to throw in the towel and go celebrate at a few Osaka night clubs, which I barely remember. Despite our successes, however, we still needed a proper ender for the video and article.

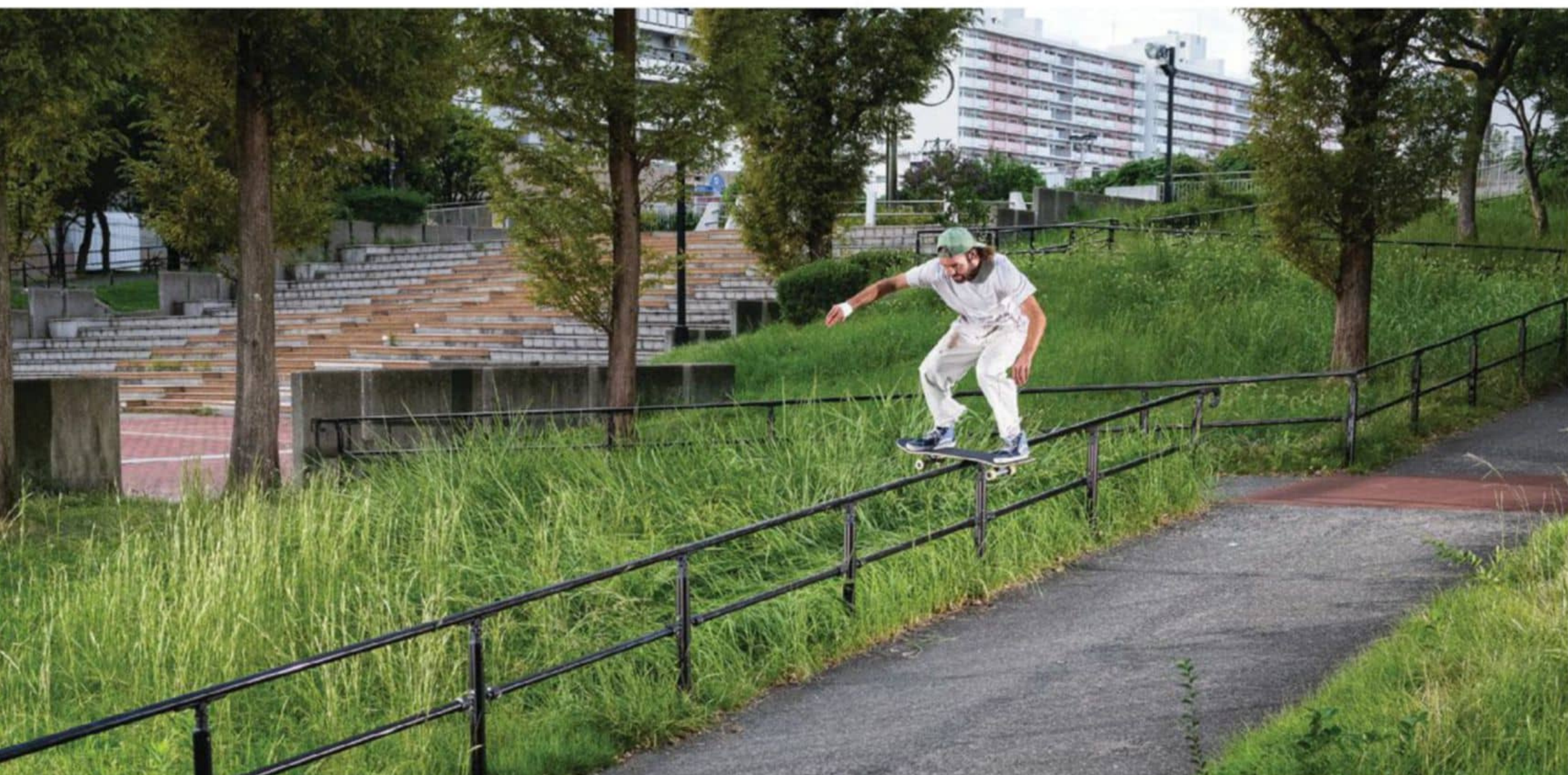


Trip MVP **Nate Guest** unlocking a **boardslide** in Osaka. This is the type of shit he's been on lately



Stelly put down the camera and sent a **roll in** for Zane





*"WHEN YOU'RE
NOT TAKING SKATING
TOO SERIOUSLY IT USUALLY
WORKS OUT"*



KOTA'S FIRST IMPRESSIONS

KOTA FUJIMURA took two weeks off work to hang with us and help translate. A few days in, it was clear that he and his homies were cracking jokes about us in Japanese. When I asked him what the hell they were saying, he explained his first impressions of our crew:

Seegull: Stupid American

Nate Guest: So shy and doesn't talk shit

Adam Anorga: Pees at every spot

Elijah Akerley: Superstar

Daniel Stelly: Actually tries to speak Japanese, but should probably just stick to English ♠

日本の旅



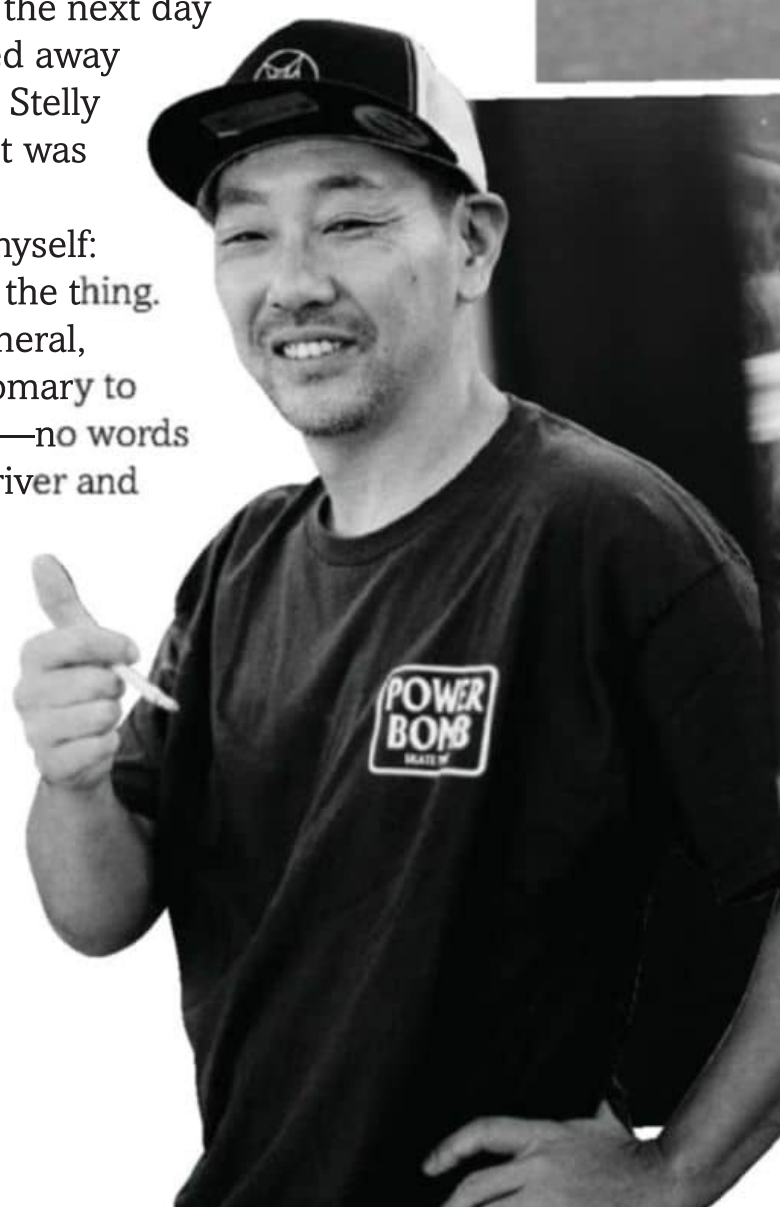
Nate snaps a **nollie heel** into a triple-stack roller coaster

Getting towed into the tsunami, **Seegull** snags a **nosepick** over the hip to close out the trip



With only a couple of days left, we headed east toward Yokkaichi with the guidance of Shine Hikaru. He brought us to a massive concrete seawall that looked unworldly. Elijah discovered that with a tow-in assist you could blast up the behemoth. He was attempting a huge backside air, but the sun set before he could put it down—which was a bummer because he had to leave early the next morning. We left feeling defeated, but the rest of the crew had a few more days to figure it out. We headed back to the spot early the next day and, after a few slams and some routine squawking, Seegull rolled away from a hefty nosepick over the hip that left everyone speechless. Stelly was so stoked he took the plunge and rolled in off the top rope. It was the perfect ender to the perfect bender.

When testing my limits trying a trick, I repeat these words to myself: *Don't talk about it; be about it.* In other words: just shut up and do the thing. I can't really say that I've applied the same ethos to my life in general, though. On this trip, I came to understand that in Japan it's customary to express gratitude simply by doing something nice for somebody—no words necessary. One day I asked Kota to translate a message to our driver and friend Nobu. I wanted to relay that I was grateful for him taking the time to drive us around and that I would like to pay for his gas and dinner. Kota replied, "I cannot tell him that. You just have to do it and stop talking about it." That was the biggest moment of culture shock I'd experienced in my life. I realized that as Americans we do a lot of talking, and much of it is unnecessary. So if you're reading this, Kota, I want to thank you for broadening my worldview. I also want to thank Naoto Oda and his family for making this trip and these realizations possible. We're all still learning. But now it's time for me to shut up and do something that I never thought was possible—finish this damn article so I can go get Awaystayed again. ♠





*"IT WAS THE
PERFECT ENDER TO THE
PERFECT BENDER"*



A skateboarder with curly hair, wearing a dark hoodie and pants, is captured mid-air while performing a trick on a set of concrete stairs. The skateboarder is positioned above the stairs, with the skateboard held horizontally. The stairs are flanked by metal railings and two prominent yellow cylindrical bollards. The background is a light-colored brick wall. A brown door is visible on the right side of the wall. The scene is set outdoors on a paved surface.

DAKOTA
SERVOLD

BONES X-FORMULA X99



TIM AGUILAR PHOTO

AUSTIN HEILMAN
BOARDSLIDE UP




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VASCONCELLOS IS STITCHED DIFFERENT



NORA IN THE ICON & BOYD CREW SOCKS

NORA
ONCELLOS

NORA VASCONCELLOS IS STITCHED





DESIGNED IN
CALIFORNIA

STITCHED
DIFFERENT

STANCE

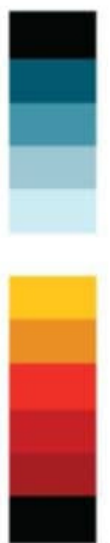


PHOTOS: ALEX PAPKE

**THE GIRL
SKATEBOARD
COMPANY**

ANDREW BROPHY







BAKER
SURFBOARDS



A Three- HOUR TOUR

Vans Makes Impact
Across America



By Kevin Shealy



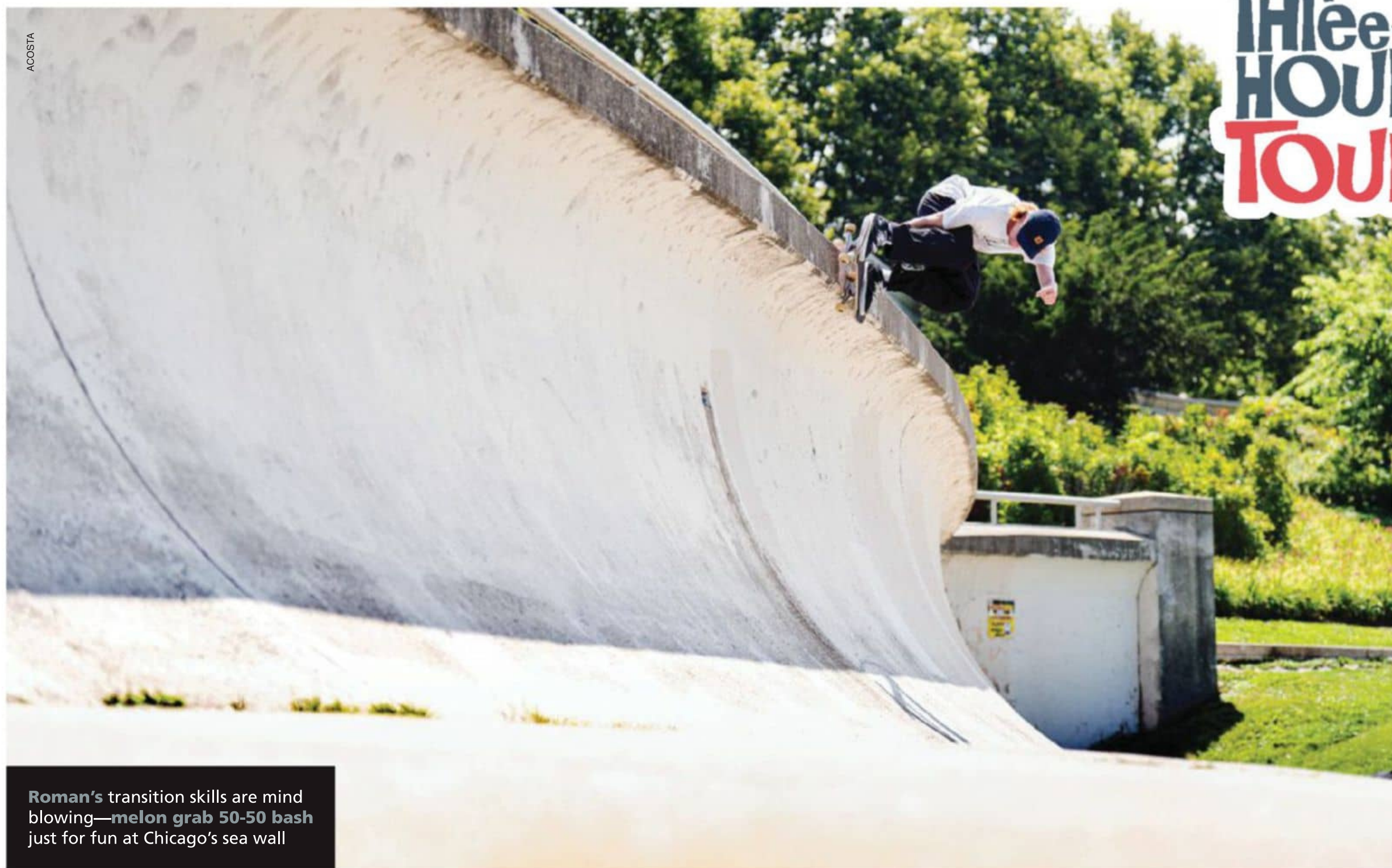


*“It’s not all
Mai Tais and tiny umbrellas
on the island”*

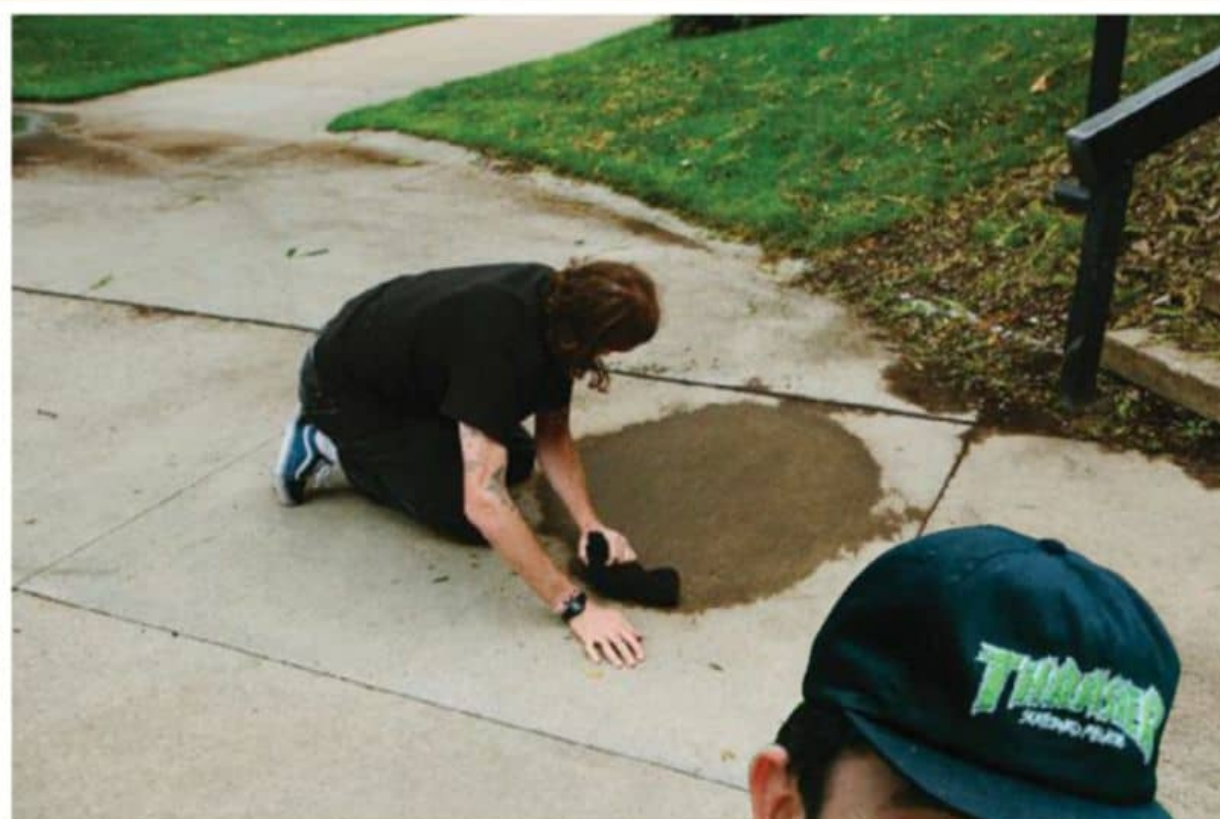
Axel had a flight back to Belgium at noon, so we woke up, grabbed coffee and he handled this **boardslide** by 10 AM

Previous spread: Say Aloha to **Shealy's** pasty white legs! **Boardslide** up, **270 shove out**

A Three- Hour Tour



Roman's transition skills are mind blowing—**melon grab 50-50 bash** just for fun at Chicago's sea wall



There's a TV show from the '60s called *Gilligan's Island*. It's about a two-man boat crew and their five passengers who set sail on a three-hour tour. The ship runs into a nasty storm and capsizes near a deserted island; everybody swims to shore and each episode is about the group trying to get off the island. The creator of the show said his intention was to display people with different characteristics and backgrounds who work together in tough situations in order to survive. So, what does that have to do with the Vans crew? Throughout 2023, we set sail on our own three-hour tour, which ended up taking almost an entire year. The Impact Tour began in March and wrapped in December, and just like the TV show it ended on an island. I couldn't help but draw comparisons between the two—we were also a diverse cast who had to work together in order to prevail. And it's not all Mai Tais and tiny umbrellas on the island. You gotta spend some time in the trenches with your new pals before it's time to celebrate. And even if their tactics seem peculiar or unfamiliar, if you trust in your teammates, things *usually* work out.





SHERBERT

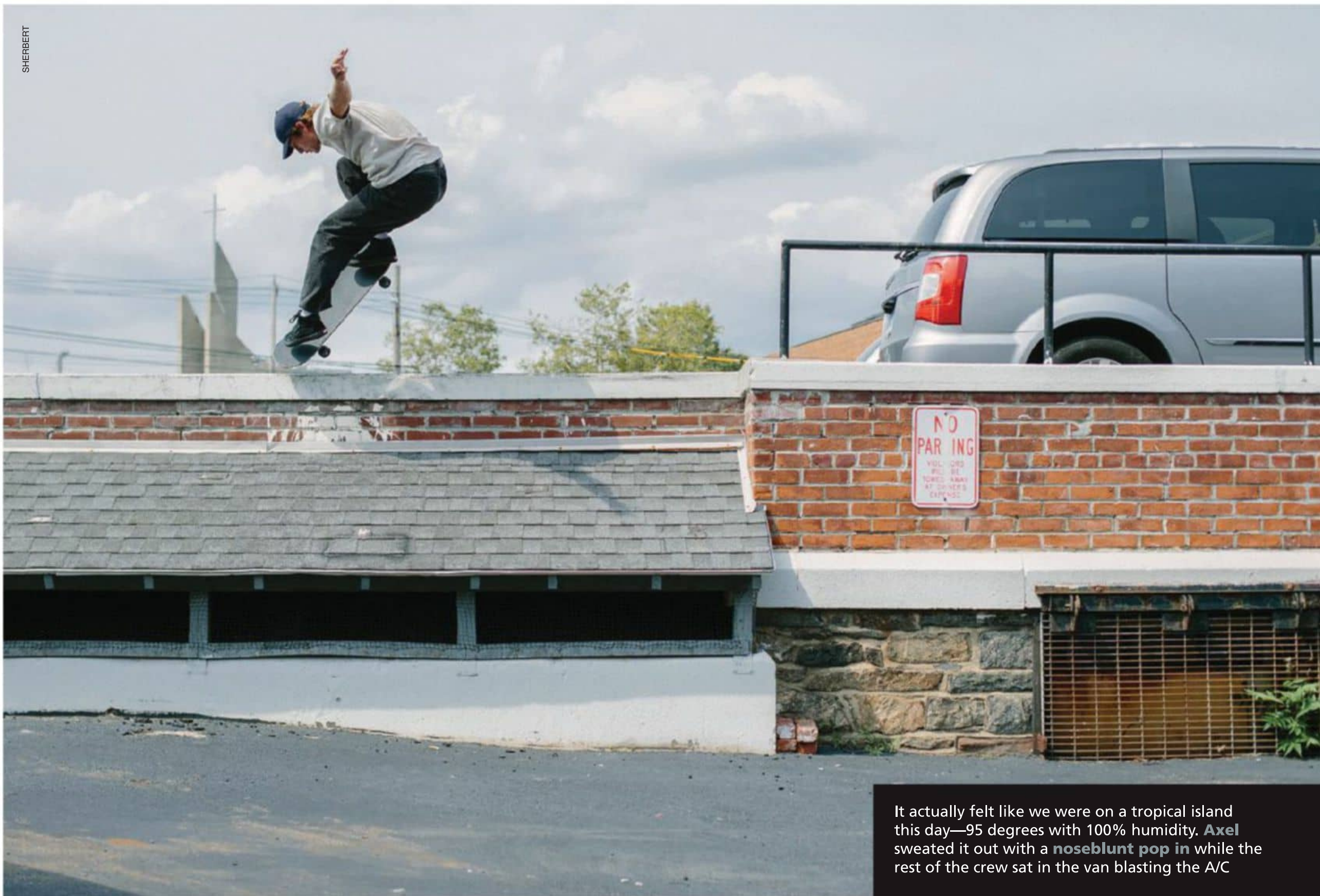
Zion front blunts this bar so he can go roll blunts and drop bars guilt free

A Three- HOUR TOUR



*“I woke up and found myself
stuck to my bedsheets”*

Motivation is extremely important on a skate tour. Zion Wright is the physical embodiment of this characteristic. The guy can’t fucking stop even if he wanted to. One morning, I woke up and found myself stuck to my bedsheets. My back was totally road rash’d from bombing hills the previous night. I heard my phone buzz—it was a text from Zion: “Fam, are you up? I’m done playing nine holes. Let’s link at the kinker.” I wasn’t even out of bed yet and Zion had already played a round of golf and was hitting me up to meet at a spot. After bandaging my wounds, we met him at a heinous kinked rail that he immediately grinded while simultaneously getting kicked out by security. Then he bought a bottle of tequila for the team, took a shot with everyone and split to record a music video for a new song he’d written. You’re definitely going to want to have Zion around if you find yourself on a deserted island. If nothing else, he’ll supply the tunes.



It actually felt like we were on a tropical island this day—95 degrees with 100% humidity. **Axel** sweated it out with a **noseblunt pop in** while the rest of the crew sat in the van blasting the **A/C**

A Three- Hour Tour



BURNETT

Nelly frontside wallrides in Hawaii while “Look at My Dab” by Migos plays softly in the background



Part of what made *Gilligan's Island* so entertaining was the stark contrast of characters. Our crew had some polar opposites as well. Kyle Walker and Nelly Morville were the unsuspecting duo that no one knew they needed. Kyle's a clean, health-conscious, fashionable skater who enjoys the finer things in life. Nelly's a chain-smoking dirtball, dressed in hand-me-downs who is content to catch some good sunsets and couldn't care less about material possessions. On paper, these two wouldn't be homies, but that's the beauty of skateboarding—we feed off of each other for the common goal, despite our differences, and they did exactly that. Kyle would start the day with a smoothie while Nelly sparked up in the parking lot and there was no judgment, only hype. If they were stuck on an island together, Kyle would find a coconut to eat and grab some leaves for Nelly to roll up her last bit of tobacco mixed with pocket lint. Every yin needs its yang.





*“On paper, these two
wouldn’t be homies, **but that’s
the beauty of skateboarding”**”*

Meanwhile, **K-Walks** **back lips** back east with “Skee Yee” by Sexyy Redd blasting out of the speaker

A Three- Hour Tour

SHERBERT

*“He was the host
of his own backseat party
and everyone was invited”*

The Big Macs haven't weighed him down too much. **Gilbert** still has hops!
Backside flip

Keeping morale high is super important when the boat is in treacherous waters. On a long trip, spirits often dip and the crew gets cranky. Luckily, we had Chima Ferguson on board. He was on one of the most grueling legs, from Detroit to NYC—31 days on the road with roommates constantly filtering in and out as riders joined/departed the tour. He survived on McDonald's (with Crockett as a partner in crime), blasting Kodak Black from the back of the van while sipping on Jameson and I never once heard him complain. The man effortlessly switch inward heeled over a fence gap and then hopped right back into the vehicle with the bluetooth speaker bumping. I often found myself slipping into negative thoughts while driving, bogged down by the countless hours staring at the road. It seemed like Chima could sense when my energy was dipping and, on cue, would pipe up, *Hey, Kev, how about some Sexy Redd?! Skee yee!* He was the host of his own backseat party and everyone was invited. And, most importantly, everyone *wanted* to be there. If he were ever shipwrecked, the first thing he'd say after washing up on shore would be, *Fuck it! At least we're on island time now, baby!*





A few Happy Dad seltzers help this happy dad get a clip. **Lipslide pop out** to van clean out, **Chima** is PMA all damn day



Nick Michel handled this ollie just before sunset. He had to hurry because *Naked and Afraid* starts at 7 PM

A Three- Hour Tour



BURNETT

Curren doesn't get stuck on islands, he vacations on them. Leisurely Smith



ACOSTA

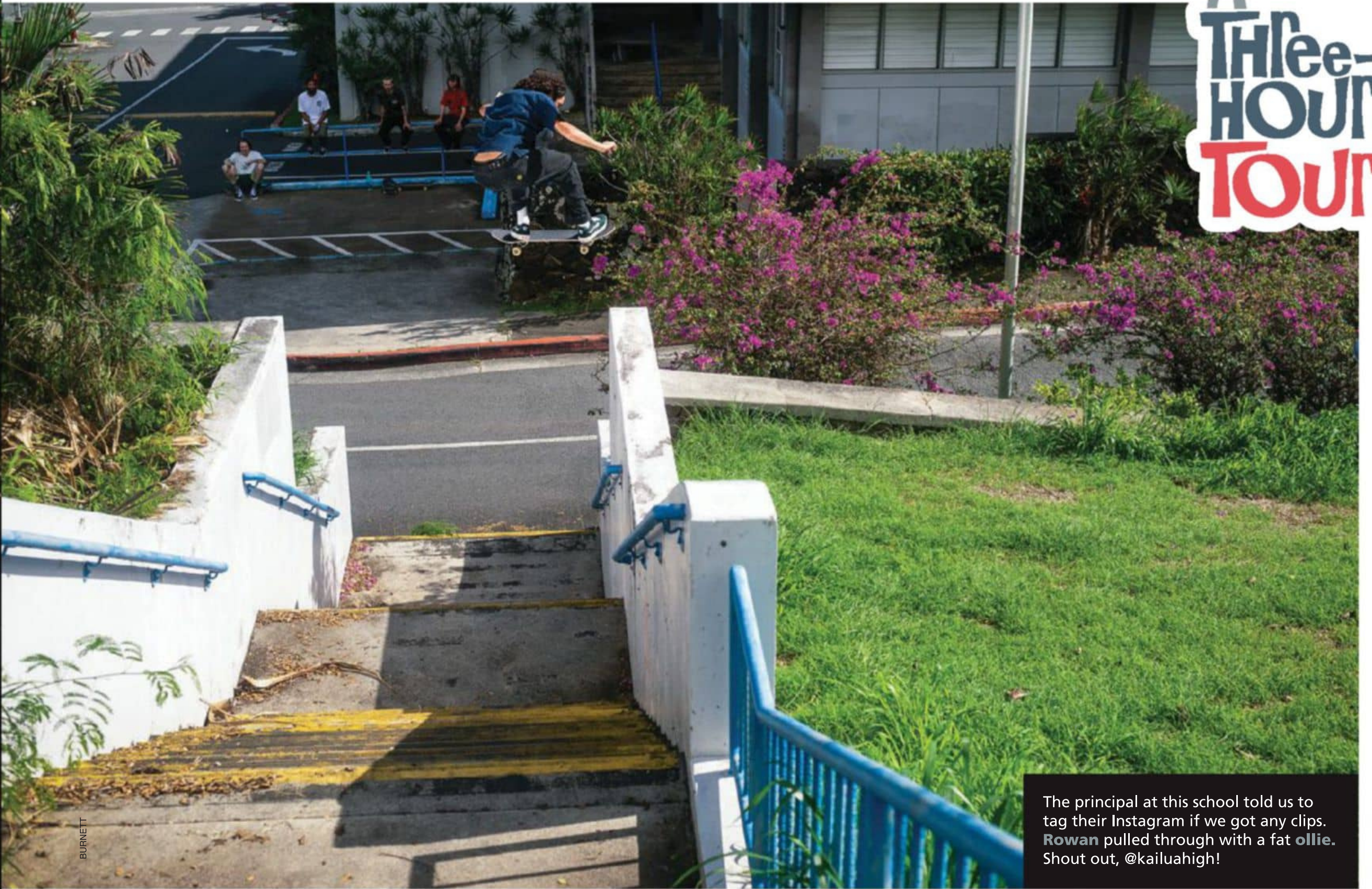


Fullpipe, halfpipe, weed pipe! Roman, nosegrind tailgrab



Glick took us to the infamous "cop slide" in Boston after this **slappy nosegrind**. Google it

A Three- Hour Tour



BURNETT

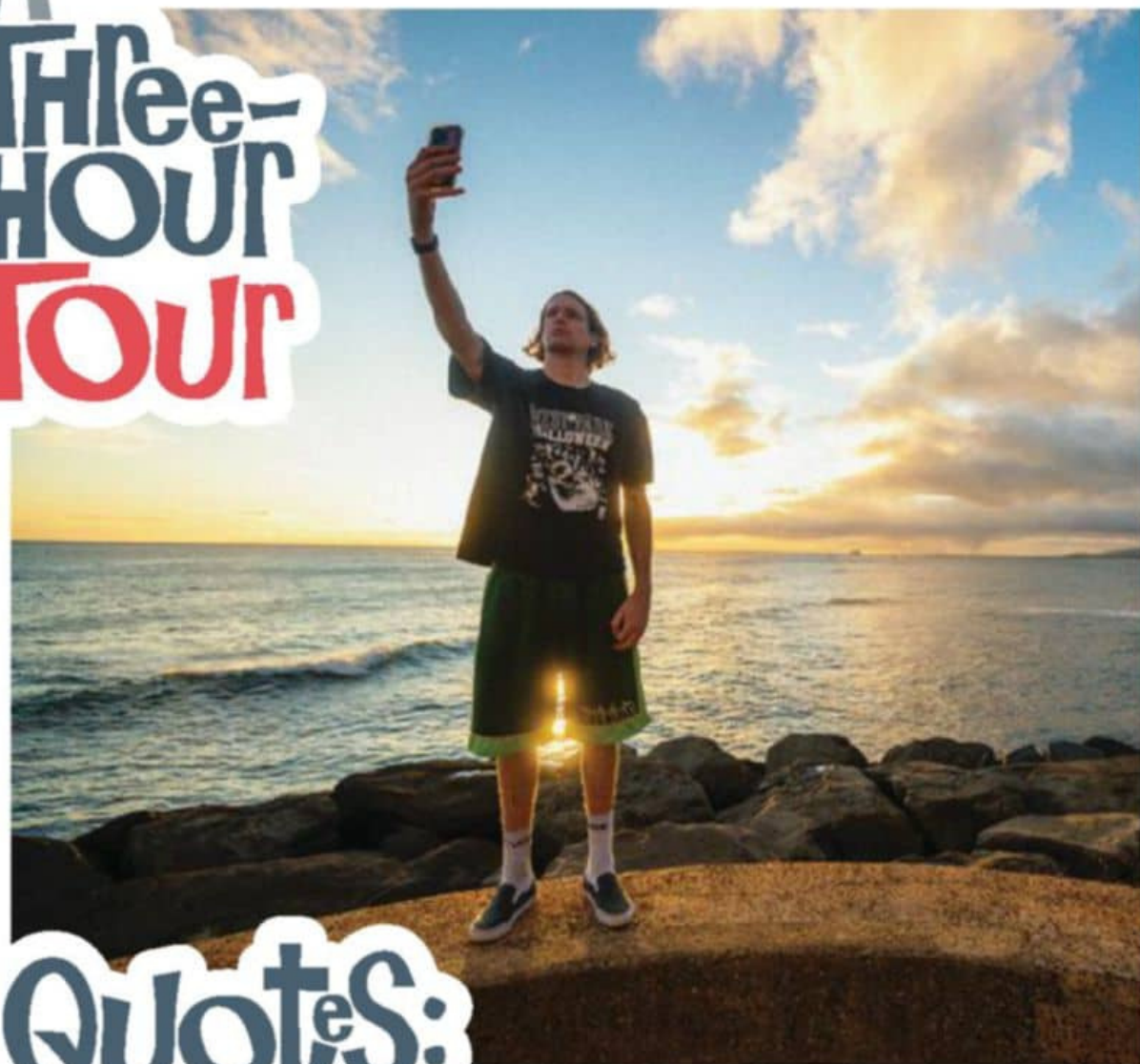
The principal at this school told us to tag their Instagram if we got any clips. **Rowan** pulled through with a fat **ollie**. Shout out, @kailuahigh!



BURNETT

Barbee and his iconic **no-comply**. Guess that keto diet really does keep you young

A Three- Hour Tour



Quotes:

“This colorway is sick!” —*Nelly Morville, regarding a tropical fish*

“The maddest I’ve ever been is in a hammock on a GoPro trip.”
—*Curren Caples*

“If you ain’t do a trick hung on this trip, you a bitch.” —*Elijah Berle*

“There’s no alcohol? Why would I do it?” —*Curren Caples, regarding oyster shooters*

“He’s going straight Berle Harbor.” —*Kevin Shealy, regarding Elijah*

“Sunscreen is a hoax.” —*Nelly Morville*

“Might have to just call it.” —*Ray “Keto” Barbee, skipping dinner after eating a pound of peanuts*

“I host my own intervention every morning.” —*Elijah Berle*

“He said he was listening to DEVO and Zappa and randomly remembered my number.” —*Rowan Zorilla, getting a call from T-Spliff*

“Louie is the new Theotis.” —*Curren Caples*





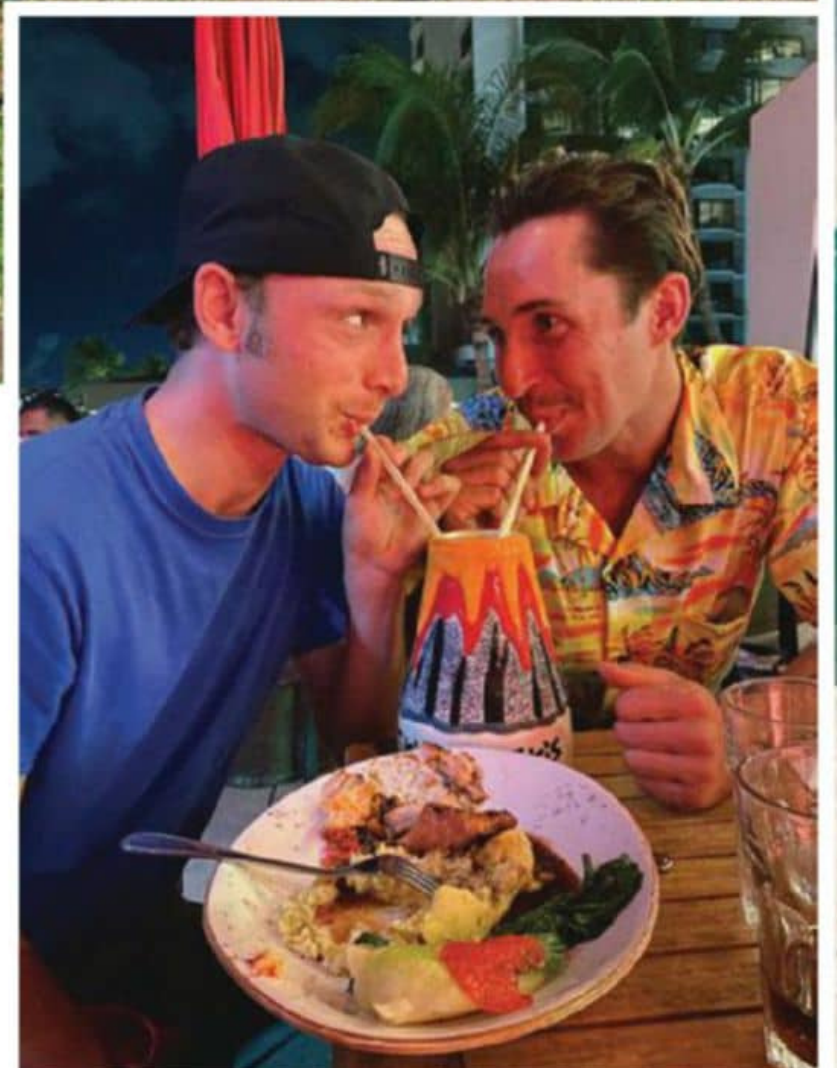
Death? Double kinks? Bear traps? SOTY ain't scared. **K-Walks, lipslide... to fakie!**

A Three- Hour Tour

*“Elijah can take a licking
and keep on ticking”*

Berle will do anything that gets him closer to Turtle Bay. Spooky-tree 50-50 with Mai Tais on the mind

In addition to motivation and morale, perseverance is necessary on these missions. We had Elijah Berle checking that box. Like a Timex watch, Elijah can take a licking and keep on ticking—indefinitely. I’m not sure what recently reignited his spark, and I’m damn sure not gonna question it, but he’s putting in the work right now! For example: the guy grinded every fucking rail on the island of O’ahu, and no matter how hard he’d slam, he’d keep going until he rolled away. He persisted because he knew that at the end of the rail was a resort that none of us actually deserved to be staying at—a place where the Mai Tais were as thick as the blood pouring from his elbows, hot tubs and infinity pools overlooked heavenly views of the ocean and we got to witness the most beautiful cotton-candy sunsets any of us had ever seen. Hawaii was the last stop of our tour and Elijah was hellbent on burning every drop of gas left in the tank. Even Rowan Zorilla and Curren Caples stepped back and let him handle business. The motto simply became, “Eli’s got this,” and he damn sure did. If you ever find yourself on a deserted island with Berle, you could probably just climb on his back and he’d swim you back to the mainland.





PHOTOS: BURNETT

The locals said only BMXers hit this rail. Mahalo to Hawaiian legend Bong for letting us get a piece! **K-Walks**, peg-free **boardslide**



Harry Bryant about to get pitted at Pipeline

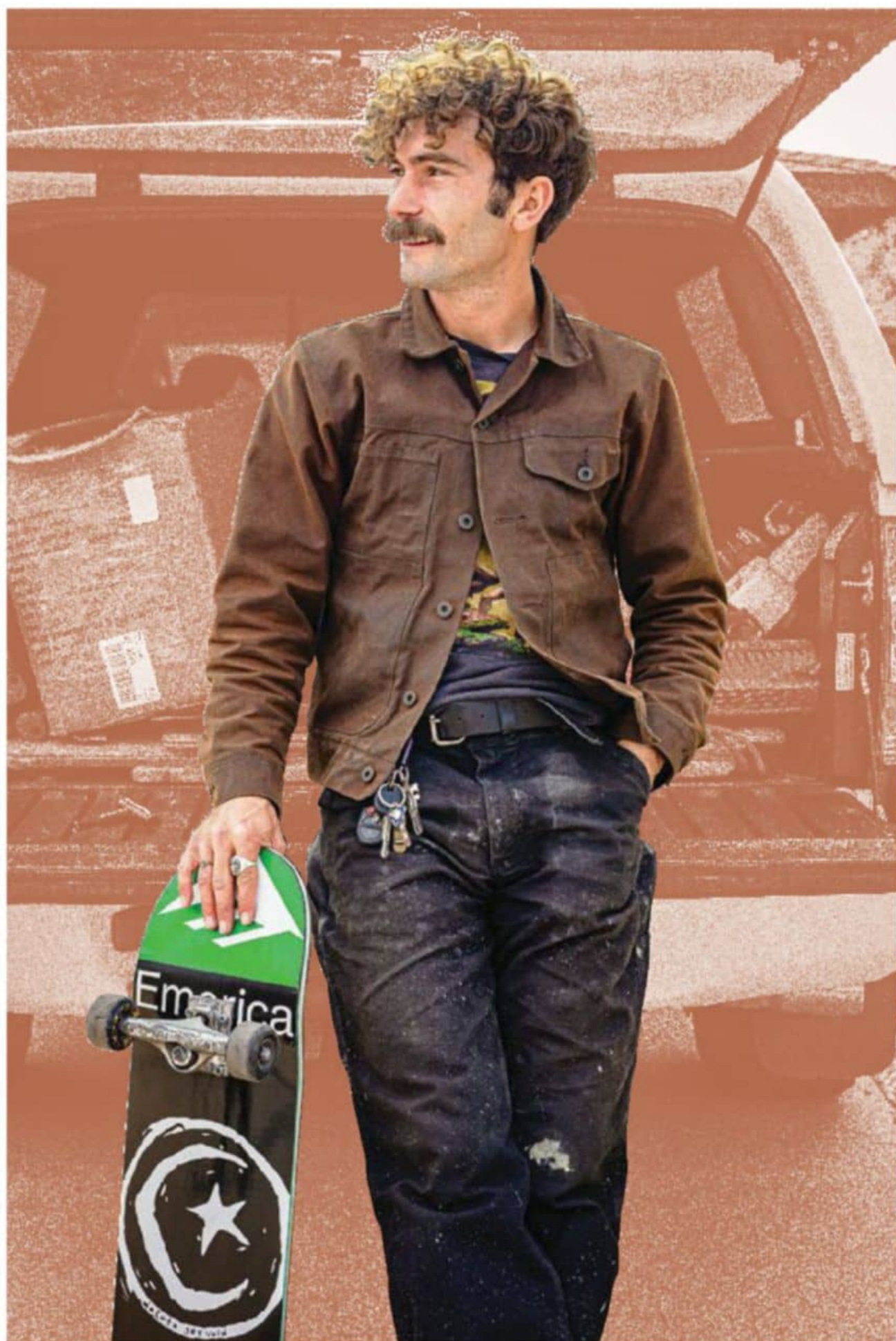
A Three- Hour Tour



Just like the cast of Gilligan's Island, our crew survived the Impact Tour with the help of one another. And as the trip came to a close in Hawaii and **Elijah grinded** everything in his goddamn path, we knew our ship would never capsize as long as we all kept working together. Aloha, Impacters! ♠



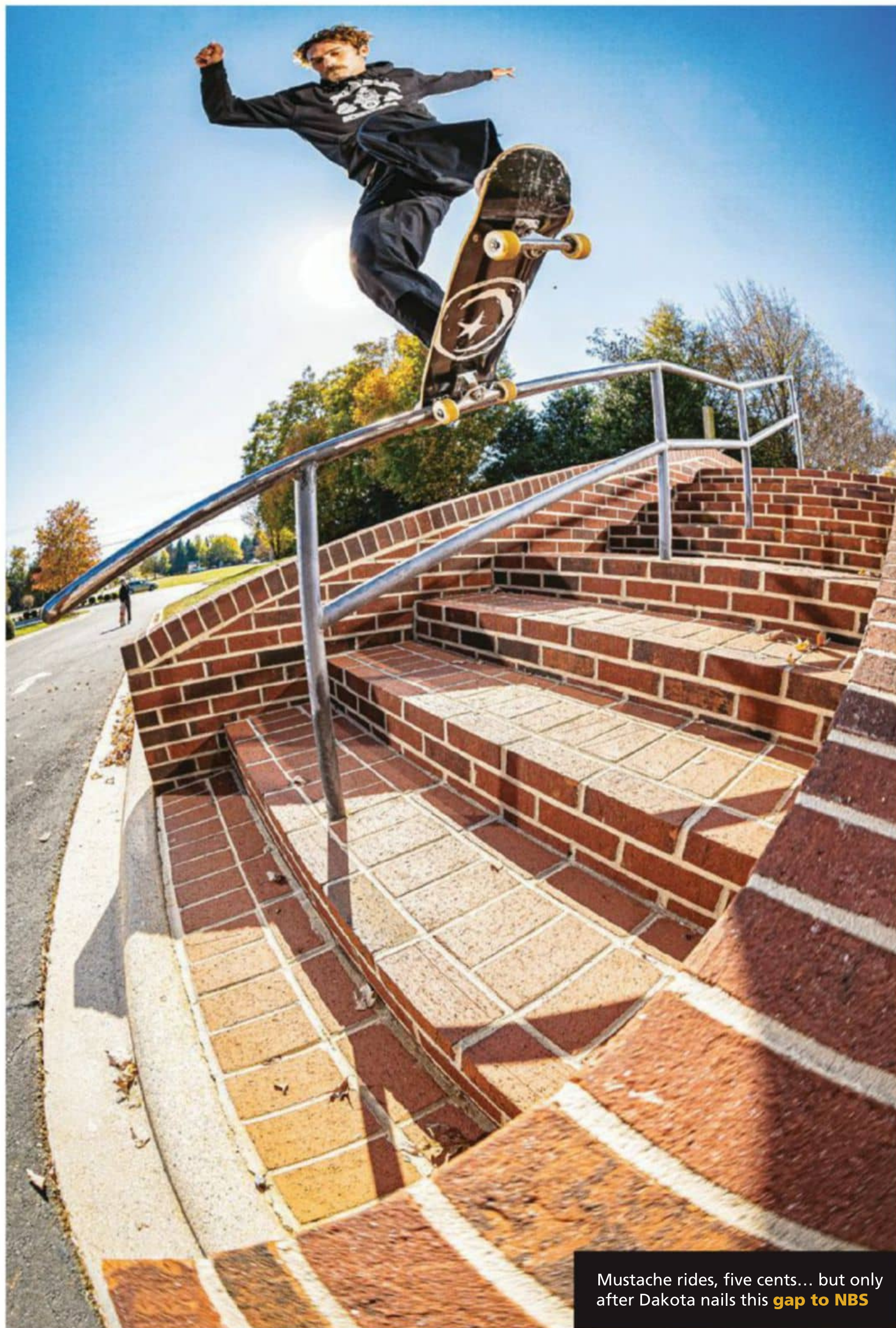




dakota
servold

PHOTOS BY TIM AGUILAR

Previous spread: The seasons may change, but Dakota's devotion to crooked steel pipe will never go dormant



Mustache rides, five cents... but only after Dakota nails this **gap to NBS**

The first time I met Dakota he was showing the crew a homemade sex tape he'd shot on his phone. It was a heck of a way to meet a new friend, and I sort of wrote him off as just another wild-eyed dipshit—one crooked grind away from either short-lived fame or the hospital. Pretty quickly he won me over, though, mostly with his unblinking optimism and very porous filter between whatever thoughts he had and the absurdities that would flow from his mouth. He was fun. And ripped! Kodi shot the cover with Hambone, went on every trip and *King of the Road* we asked him to and was a generally positive force—grinding and sliding everything in sight. Like a lot of skaters who turn shredding into a job, Dakota has reinvented some of his motivations as of late. He still has fun and rips, but these days his skate schedule is something closer to *The Amazing Race* or one of those Ironman competitions. Buff, living clean, mustached and always on the spot hunt, he's turned this skateboarding adventure into a blue-collar job. And at this point, he's pretty much earning overtime. —Michael Burnett



One time we were supposed to drive the van out to Kansas City to meet everyone for a skate trip. We were going to leave three days in advance to have ample time to comfortably drive the 20-plus hours from LA to KC, but something happened with my house where I couldn't leave until the day before we were supposed to pick up the crew. I told Dakota, "Ah, man. You should just fly out there," and he's like, "Fuck it, I'll drive with you." So we drove—like 24 hours straight. He didn't complain, he never brought it up afterwards, never gave me guff about it, he was just down. It was a very fuckin' bro move. He was a very gracious man about it all, and that's pretty much what he's like in general. —Leo Romero

*“DAKOTA HAS REINVENTED
SOME OF HIS MOTIVATIONS
AS OF LATE”*



Riding the rails, living the dream



Who needs a gym?
Mannie don't even
need pants!

Leo, Dakota and I were enjoying some gorgeous frozen yogurt one time many years ago and I was asking everyone what they were going to do once this skateboard ride was over. One of the guys said he would probably work in the Tum Yeto warehouse and when it was Dakota's turn he said, "I don't know. I'll probably just get into car construction." So that was a fun one. We all laughed. I believe I told him, "Car construction? I'm not even sure if that's real." Dakota was kind of known for saying things that didn't always make a whole lot of sense. The irony is, fast forward a few years, and I'm actually *doing* car construction—I build custom interiors for Sprinter vans. So, Dakota, it turns out, once this skateboarding career is finally over, you can come and work for me! —*Jimmy Arrighi*

dakota servold

Jared Lucas from Bones hit me up and said this kid from Temecula was coming down to skate and we met him at that Scripps Ranch triple kink. He got out of the van with long, curly hair and was super nice. He already had an Indy sticker on his board and he was riding Indys. He battled the rail, grinded it, and at that point I asked him if he wanted to ride for the team. Next, we went to the Parkside rail and he kickflip back lipped that to fakie. After that we went to Patrick Henry and he nosegrinded the 17-stair rail by the bank. So, in one day we shot his entire *Lunatic Fringe*, the first day I met him. Pretty amazing for a kid I'd never even heard of. It's rad to see him nowadays—he's not drinking, totally sober and just combing the country for spots. It sometimes seems like everyone is skating the same spots over and over, but he's finding and skating these crazy spots that nobody has ever seen before. It's great to see he still has that same drive and determination. You should interview his girlfriend! I don't know how the fuck all those dudes have girlfriends—they're always on the road! —Chris "Rhino" Rooney



Dakota **slides and drops** with his best friend in the background: the Yeto van



I've known Dakota since we were little kids. We used to go to the skatepark and play this game called "crack the whip" where we'd all hold hands and my dad would swing us around. It always ended with the kid at the very end getting whipped off into space. So one time we were playing that and Dakota was at the tail end. My dad must've whipped it extra hard, because Dakota flew off all crazy and smacked his head. He curled into the fetal position, held his head and wouldn't say anything or let us stretch him out. For five minutes we tried to get him to relax and talk to us, but he just stayed in this tightly-wound-up position. Finally, I remember my dad just picking him up, still in the fetal position, carrying him across the skatepark and loading him into the car to take him home. He was so pissed. These days he's still one of my best friends—always supportive, always down. And recently we went to see one of our favorite bands The Chemical Brothers and danced all night! —Aaron "Jaws" Homoki

**"IN ONE DAY
WE SHOT HIS
ENTIRE LUNATIC FRINGE"**

Cracking the whip on a snappy **front board**

Dakota and I were on a trip with Hammeke and were staying at this very affordable hotel in Folsom, CA, near the prison. A trucker was staying a few doors down from us and at the time Dakota smoked cigarettes so I joined him for one on the balcony. While we were out there, this older man approached us, probably in his 60s, and he started talking to us about how his wife's waiting for him back in the room. The conversation quickly got more R-rated, but we were still smoking so we just let him carry on. He kept hinting that Dakota and I should come back to his room to meet his wife. At least, that's what it sounded like to me. Finally, we excused ourselves and went back into our room. After a couple minutes Dakota turns to me and is like, "Wait! Did that guy want us to bang his wife?!" —David Reyes





“HE’S THE TYPE OF FRIEND
YOU CAN ALWAYS TALK TO”

Like a shark, if Dakota stops
nosesliding he’ll die

Dakota says he wants to stay on the road for an entire year. In the van... for the whole year. Three-hundred-and-sixty-five days: that’s his goal. He just loves it. He doesn’t want to be at home, because when he’s at home he feels like he gets stuck doing things, like errands. When he’s on the road he can 100% focus on finding spots and getting clips. Eating good, getting clips and stacking for the next project, I’ve never seen anybody that motivated, to be honest. He’ll be at the van at 8 AM in the winter, 10 AM in the summer, because he wants to get as much out of the day as possible. You just gotta be there. I think he got into this routine because of COVID, because I told them I wasn’t gonna go out with them anymore. *I’m older, I’m fatter, I’m gonna die* and they’re like, *We’re gonna do it anyway. You guys can do whatever you*

want—I’ll fund it; you make it happen. I taught them how to operate on a budget, do simple math and he’s gotten super into it. He’s tighter on that budget than I am. We’ve done cross-country trips, a month long, for like two grand. That’s basically just gas! He just wants to go! I think he’s done four months at a time so far. I’m sure he can make a year. Some of the team can’t hang, but Leo and Dakota are just out there. It’s about as low budget as you can get and it’s fun. Dakota’s family has a nice house—we stay there for a month. We go to Daniel Lutheran’s house. Only thing is he doesn’t like Florida, which makes the winter kinda hard. You’d have to ask him why. Bottom line—he’s made being a pro skater into a full-time job. And I don’t see him stopping anytime soon. —Mike Sinclair

One time Dakota hit me up to shoot a photo and I was at my ex-girlfriend's house about to eat dinner. I got up, went to my car, drove about 100 miles per hour to the spot and we got the photo. So that's how down I am for Dakota and I'd like to think he's that down for me, too. On a recent tour Dakota and I started watching romantic comedies every night. We'd just kick back with a rom-com after a hard day skating. So one night Dakota picks out this movie and, man, it was pretty heavy, pretty sad. Dakota kept saying, "Just wait! It's about to get funny!" So we watched a few more minutes and he's all, "Dude, I swear, the funny part's about to come up right now!" We get to the end of the movie and we're both crying. It was called *Five Feet Apart*, a love story about two terminally-ill people. I have no idea why Dakota thought it was going to be a romantic comedy. —Tim Aguilar



When I was back in AZ, I was just doing random jobs, filming jobs. I didn't think I would ever leave. I'd always think, *What would Jaws do if I left? Who would film him?* Then after Jaws got hurt I kinda fell into a dark time where there was really no one to film and nothing to do. Dakota had been trying to get me to move to California, but I was always hesitant to make the first drive 'cause of my Tourettes. It's hard for me to drive that long. But Dakota has a very straightforward way of speaking and he really sat me down and told me that it would be better for me; I'd have more people to skate with; I'd find my own spots. He gave me a real pep talk, but coming from a friend it really hit me. He told me, "You've got to trust yourself sometimes." He talked to Leo, got me a place to live, helped me move and set me up. Because of Dakota I have been able to move to California and become an actual filmer in the industry. He's the type of friend you can always talk to. He's like, *You never know what's gonna happen. Look at me! I'm doing it day by day.* I love that outlook on life. There's no reason to stress—sometimes you've just gotta take a gamble and really try. —Cody Long

Front blunt shove, then time for
My Best Friend's Wedding



When I think of Dakota, the first thing that comes to mind is heart. I've never met anyone with so much heart and drive to keep pushing through, even when all odds are against him. It's a pretty cool superpower. On one mission, he had two fucked ankles, it was raining, windy and cold, but he was still out there trying his hardest to get clips. He was smiling and cracking jokes the whole time, too. That type of energy affects everyone around him. We feed off it; it's pure octane. After my first Tum Yeto trip, he sent me this wild, philosophical text talking about how we were now Viking brothers and our journey to Valhalla will be full of fire and brimstone. Honestly, it's probably the coolest text I've ever gotten. Dakota really is a Viking. He's relentless, and he understands time—he knows there will come a day when we won't be able to skate or do the things we love so he takes full advantage of the time he has now to skate with his friends. He's a G! —*Braden Hoban*

Guys like Dakota and Dickson were like honorary team riders. It took them a long time to get on the team, but they were always welcome in the van. I'd go to pick up Leo and be like, *What are you doing? Get in the van; let's go!* He's always been a positive force. It was easy. He was willing to put in the work for what he wanted. Back then everyone partied, but nowadays they've switched their addictions to health—they've got a rolling boot camp wherever they go with weights and all this stuff. It's cool to see how dedicated Dakota still is. He's committed to being the best that he can be. —Jon Miner ♠

*“BACK THEN EVERYONE PARTIED,
BUT NOWADAYS THEY’VE
SWITCHED THEIR ADDICTIONS
TO HEALTH”*

Healthy living and **kickflips**, both get Dakota high AF. Keep killing it, Kodi Boi!

GET

YOUR

SHIT

TOGETHER

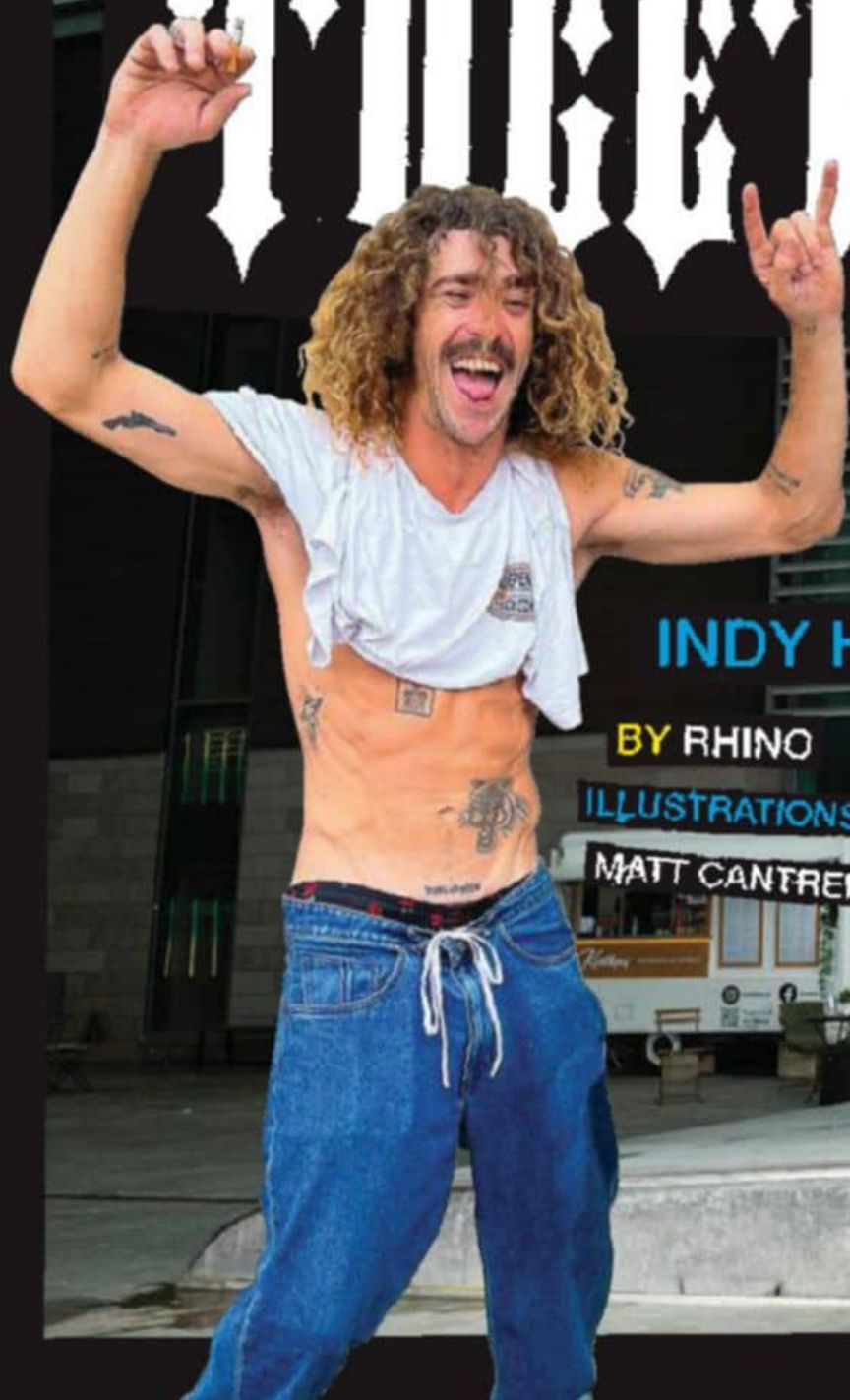
Helsinki

INDY HITS HELSINKI

BY RHINO

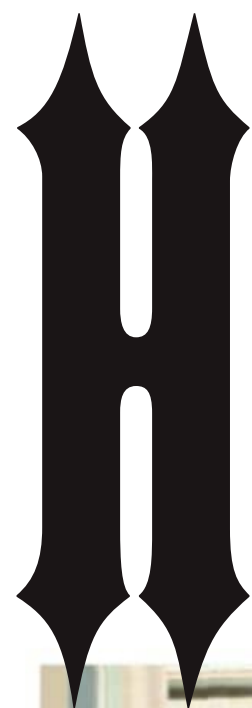
ILLUSTRATIONS BY

MATT CANTRELL





Previous spread: **Madars** bumps and grinds some public art while **Barney Page** 180s into a cobblestone calamity



Helsinki's been on the hit list for a while because of two contests they throw each summer—the Koff Race and Helride, which consume the city for four days. Most of us hadn't been there, but we knew enough to want to visit: Arto's from there, saunas are abundant and the Nordic people like to drink. Obviously, that last one's a generalization, but we found it be to true—the Finnish people definitely imbibe. They have some of the harshest, darkest winters on the planet, so when summer comes they squeeze the most out of each day, and that's exactly what we wanted to do as well.



"THE FINNISH PEOPLE DEFINITELY IMBIBE"



The gang's all here

Every morning started the same: "Call ze Govs," AKA Marius Syvänen. Our hotel was on the same street as his house, which was only about a mile away, and a good chunk of the crew was staying with him. He became our unofficial tour guide for the trip. Anything we needed, Marius had it covered. Example: On the flight there, a zipper on one of our videographer's camera bags broke. He texted Govs mid-flight and upon landing Marius was waiting for us with a new camera bag ready to go. The people's champ.

Barney Page noted, "This is one of the heaviest crews I have ever seen on a trip," and he was absolutely correct. We started off with a handful of Indy European team riders and we kept adding members as people showed up for the contests. Before we knew it, we had two vans packed full of skaters. Some days we actually forgot to pick dudes up because we couldn't remember everyone who was in town. But it's so easy to get around the city—you just grab a rental bike and meet up with the crew—so nobody was ever bummed if they got left behind. There's worse places to get stranded than Helsinki in the summer.



First day out, Marius put **Wes** on blast at this old Arto spot, "You better get your board out of the van, Kremer!" Wes grabbed his board and did this **wallie boardslide** with no warmup. SOTY shit!



If you're claimboarding, you better step to the spot the next day. **Doobie**, 11 AM birthday-boy **gap to lip** on one of the heaviest spots in town. You know the revs were high 'til the sun came up!

GET YOUR SHIT
TOGETHER

"TIME TO MAKE
DOOBIE"



DOOBIEISMS

"Get your shit together" - Heard anytime someone fucks up or doesn't land their trick

"Tonight's the night" - He says this all day long, every day, to hype up the night's festivities

"Call ze guy" - Not sure who "ze guy" is, but apparently he's all over Europe

"No cooler, no skate" - The cooler full of ice and beer better be in the van at the time of departure or we ain't leaving

"Where's the fucking hype?!" - When someone is trying a trick and the crew is not hyping them up

"Time to make doobie" - Joint-rolling time

"Claimboarding" - Seeing a photo and claiming tricks at tomorrow's spot while drinking, smoking and partying in the van or at a bar

"You're blowing it big time" - Self-explanatory—see the last paragraph of this article ♡





“THERE’S MORE SAUNAS
THAN AUTOMOBILES
IN FINLAND”

HELSINKI PLAYLIST

- Tropa Magica** - “Feels like Tijuana”
- Pastor López** - “Sorbito de Champagne”
- Motörhead** - “(We Are) The Road Crew”
- Brujeria** - “Marijuana”
- Brotha Lynch Hung** - “Rest in Piss”
- Commodores** - “Machine Gun”
- Last Rights** - “Wasted Time”
- Tim Maia** - “Nobody Can Live Forever”
- Jimmy Cliff** - “The Harder They Come”
- Afroman** - “Colt 40ty Fiva (Drunk Driver)”
- Sizzla** - “Haunted & Nervous”
- SSD** - “Get it Away”
- Drunk Injuns** - “Mental Holocaust”
- Dirt Nasty** - “Black Girls”
- Slayer** - “Show No Mercy”
- The Jam** - “That’s Entertainment”
- War** - “Low Rider”
- Cheech & Chong** - “Earache My Eye”
- Van Halen** - “Intruder”
- Bathory** - “Enter the Eternal Fire”
- Patrick Hernandez** - “Born to Be Alive”



Bækkel, tail-drop tight squeeze



GET YOUR SHIT
TOGETHER

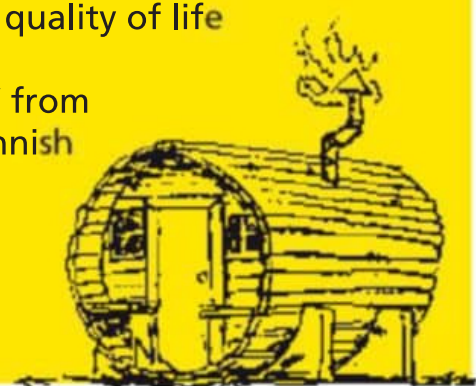
Mathias Torres' playlist is almost as heavy as this **gap to front crooks**



Madars only skates art now—**ollie to fakie**

FINNISH FUN FACTS

- **Helsinki is the coldest** capital in the Nordic region
- **Finns are the undisputed** sauna champions—there's more saunas than automobiles in Finland
- **Helsinki was established** by King Gustav I in 1550
- **Per capita**, Finland has the more heavy metal bands than any other country in the world
- **The Finns coined** the term "Molotov cocktail"
- **Helsinki has some of** the cleanest tap water of all the world's major cities
- **You can get around the city** faster on a bike than you can in a car—we tested that out with Eniz Fazliov
- **Packaged alcohol** can not be purchased after 9 PM, which forces drinkers to spend money in bars
- **They have a sport** called "wife carrying." Google it!
- **Finland is known as** the "world's happiest country" because of the high quality of life
- **Arto Saari is the only** SOTY from Finland, but other notable Finnish pro skaters include Jaakko Ojanen, Eniz Fazliov, Marius Syvänen, Eetu Toropainen and Jani Laitiala ♠



GET YOUR SHOT
TOGETHER



Locals only—Helsinki's own **Jonne Nordlund** makes easy work of a bump-to-bar **hardflip**



**"IT WAS TIME FOR
CHANGE AND CLARITY"**

MARIUS ON THE WAGON

Ze Gavs revs up on .00s and takes a **front board** all the way

How long have you been sober?
I went cold turkey in February 2023, so almost a year now without booze.

That's awesome. What was the reason for the change?

I was so low, dude. Everything around me seemed like it had crumbled to shit. Drinking was ruining my life and dragging me deeper into the vicious cycle I'd let it become. It was time for change and clarity.

What's the worst thing about drinking?
Not knowing you have a serious problem until the shit hits the fan and blackouts are so fucking dangerous.

Brandon Turner says, "Alcohol always wins." Are there any benefits to drinking?

Hell no! Brandon has been one of my main inspirations to stay away from drinking. Much love, B!

It seems like you have been on a tear lately on your skateboard. How are things going?

Thanks, brotha. Things seriously just keep getting better and better because of not drinking. It's crazy—I got my skate love back, things are growing with my clothing brand TIMES Goods and my family relationships and communication are on point. I'm doing way better, let's just say that.

When we were on the trip you were out every night with the crew at the bars. How do you stay sober out there?

That took a while to get used

to, actually, but once I finally realized I don't need alcohol to have a good time it was easy. Oh yeah, and .00s of course, but once the clock hits around midnight I just Houdini and head home.

Do you plan to stay on the wagon?

Yeah, man, I'm stoked at where I'm at and I don't really wanna fuck it up again. So yeah, I'm going to keep it going mellow style.

If anyone is struggling, what advice do you have?

Reach out to someone for help if you're struggling! Keep your self-discipline on point and don't be afraid to reach out for help. If no one is around, I am. Hit me up! ♠



GET YOUR SHIT TOGETHER

SAVE THE SUVILAHTI DIY

Like most renegade skate spots, the Suvilahti DIY has faced the threat of demolition since its inception 13 years ago. The city set a date of September 1, 2023, to begin bulldozing the site, but thankfully that date came and went without incident. The surrounding area was desolate and industrial when the DIY first popped up, however, it's now surrounded by high-rise residential structures and hip retail storefronts (remind you of Burnside?). The Suvilahti skate community won't give up the fight and will do everything in their power to keep the stoke fired up and the park intact. In fact, the next contest is already planned for July 2024. Keep your fingers crossed!



Kowalski frontside fastplants off the E at the Suvilahti DIY. He was born for this



Kremer's homie Duane from SD took the ice-bath plunge to catch boards. **Nassim** needed no spotter, though—**switch heel**

Tyler Surrey hurricanes on the baby board. Micro aggression, major fun!

**“SOCCER BALLS ARE OUT
AND SK8MAFIA MICRO DECKS**

ARE IN!”

FIRE IT UP



TIME BURGLAR

Soccer balls are out and Sk8Mafia Micro decks are in! Wes showed up on the trip with a Micro complete and everyone immediately wanted to get tricks on it. What a great marketing plan—send these out to some of the raddest skaters around the world, they film tricks on it and Sk8mafia posts the footage on their Instagram. Genius! On the downside, they are definitely time burglars when you're at a spot and you want the crew to get bangers, but they'd rather stack Micro clips for the 'Gram. At least they're getting footy, though. Try putting some trucks on a soccer ball and see what you get.



FIVE DECADES OF DUFFY

Tight hemmies from way back—**Marius, Surrey, Wes and Duffy**

So, Pat, you're turning 50 this year, right?

Yeah, the big five-O, dude, on January 17th.

Got any big plans for your birthday?

We are going to Barcelona with the family and meeting up with Marius, Madars and others to hang out and skate. We're going to get out of the cold darkness of winter in Helsinki for a few days.

So you live in Helsinki now. What are you doing besides skating these days?

Well, I live about an hour outside of Helsinki in a village called Fiskars. It's a little touristy town that's known for centuries of iron work. They are famous for making those scissors with the orange handles. I live there with my wife Chia and my two kids. My daughter Seila, who is 16, and my son Lemmy, who is 13. Aside from skating, I have been judging contests for the past 15 years.

Do you get to skate a lot when you go to a contest to judge?

Yeah, for sure. Wherever we are we always have time to skate the streets.

How old were you when you started skating?

There was a skateboard around our house when I was young—my neighbors would leave one around for us to use. I saved up to buy a Steve Caballero dragon graphic around 1983. That was my first real skateboard.

So, do the math—that was 40 years ago.

Yeah, but I had a Variflex banana board even earlier than that—when I was around five years old, so I would say I have been skating

for about 45 years.

Plan B's *Questionable* came out 32 years ago. Your part was a game-changer at that time as far as street skating. Fast forward to 2024 and you're still out in the streets getting after it. What's the secret? How do you keep the hype going?

I don't really have a secret; it's the love I have of riding my skateboard and the feeling of rolling away from a battle.

We met up with Matt Hensley when you were here a few months ago. You got a pretty heavy trick at 10 AM and he was there to witness it. I asked him about you and he said you're exactly the same now as you were the first day he met you at School W around 1991. Are the battles harder these days compared to when you were younger?

Well, I have never been a first-or-second-try trick guy, so I have been battling tricks for 35-plus years.

At 50 you're still skating hard and you're in good shape. What's the formula?

The last ten years I have been focusing on eating well. It's definitely hard when you're on the road, but I just try and take care of myself as much as I can. The Finnish lifestyle—people are very happy and comfortable so that helps. But at this point I could live anywhere and stay healthy. It's more about your mindset.

You've dealt with numerous injuries over the years. What were some of the heavy ones?

In the early '90s I broke my collarbone like

eight times in a row snowboarding and skating. I broke my elbow, had surgery on my radius in my left arm, but the heavy one was when I shattered my knee on the Mega Ramp. They had to do four surgeries to screw it back together.

The backside air to flat on the quarterpipe after the gap, that was gnarly. Did you think at any point that injury would slow you down or stop you from skating?

I never thought that, but some of the doctors told me I was going to have a limp for the rest of my life and I probably wouldn't be able to skateboard. I was so pissed at them. I was like, *Fuck you*. How can they look you in the eyes and tell you that? I knew in my mind I would be back skating, but it took about two years to fully recover from that one.

If you could go back and change anything over the years, what would it be?

Maybe I could have been a little more methodical about video parts, but I have no regrets on anything I've done. I've had a long and good skateboard career and I'm pretty proud of it.

I agree. It doesn't seem like it's slowing down either.

Thanks, I appreciate it.

What's Duffy at 60 going to be like?

Shit, I can't even think about that, dude. Well, if I can stay in shape I will be slashing pools and trying to get some grinds somewhere. I never want to lose that feeling of rolling away—never! ♠

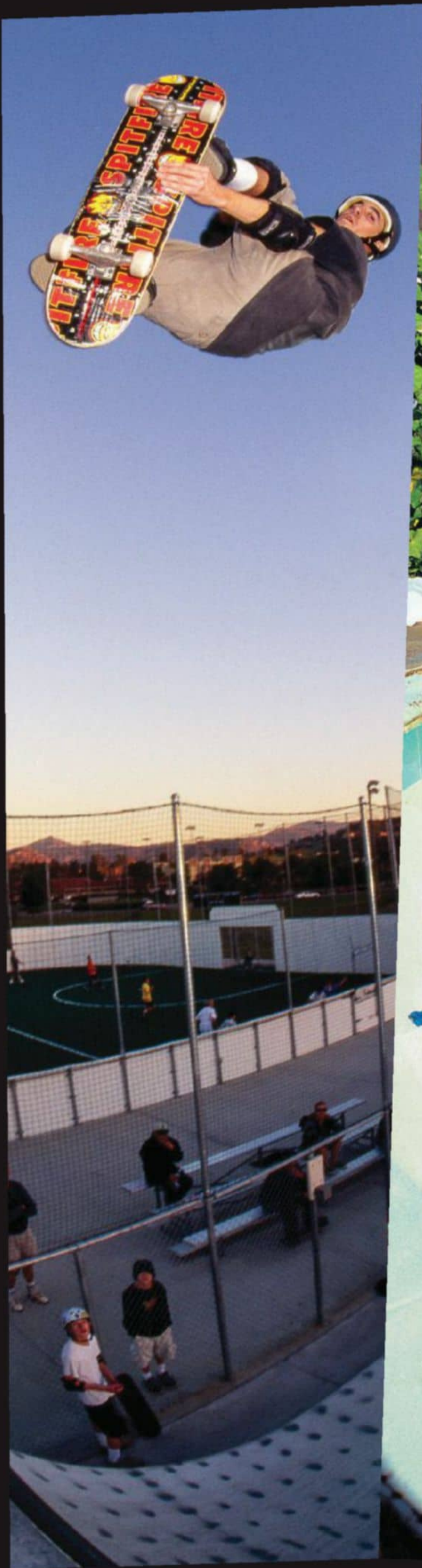
GET YOUR SHIT
TOGETHER

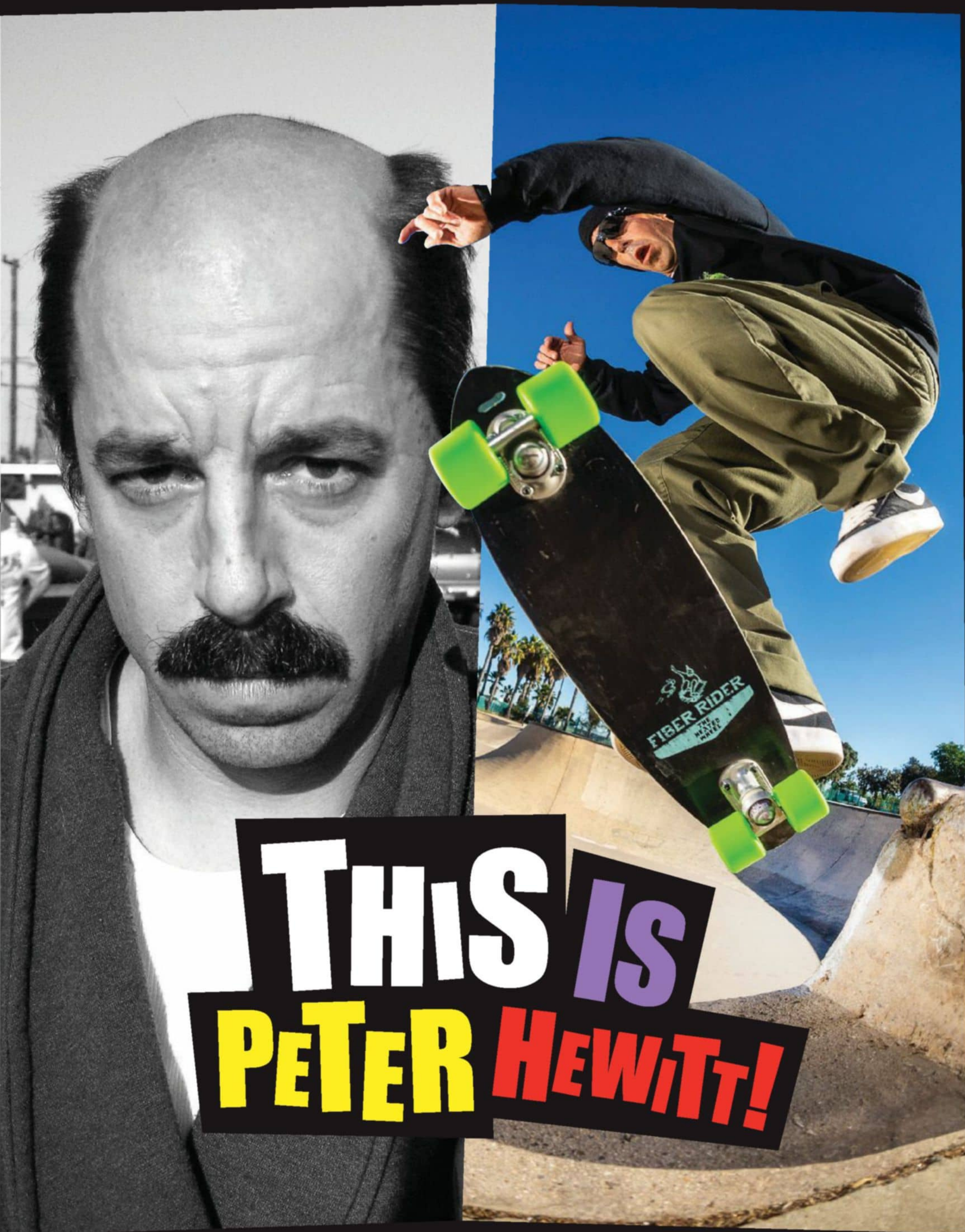


“24 HOURS FELT LIKE AN ENTIRE WEEKEND”

Helsinki proved to be the city we all hoped for—friendly people, minimal cops, great European skate architecture and the sun didn’t set until 11:30 PM. Some days we got so much footage that 24 hours felt like an entire weekend—our 11-day trip felt more like three weeks. The only bummer was Arto wasn’t in town while we were there. It would have been cool to see him in his homeland. We checked out some of the spots he grew up skating, though, and understood the vibe he has from growing up here. He definitely put Helsinki on the skate map. Oh, the other thing we missed was saying goodbye to Doobie. The last night of the trip, he blew it out so hard that we couldn’t wake him up in the morning to go to the airport. We called and texted him—no answer. We pounded on his hotel-room door—no answer. I rang him one more time as I started the van—straight to voicemail. I waited for the beep and everyone in the van yelled, “Doobie, get your shit together! You’re blowing it big time!” Click. I hung up the phone, put the van in drive and off to the airport we went. Until next time... ♠

This **heelflip** wasn’t first or second try, but **Duffy** damn sure won the battle. Terminators never quit. Happy half-decade, Pat!





THIS IS
PETER HEWITT!

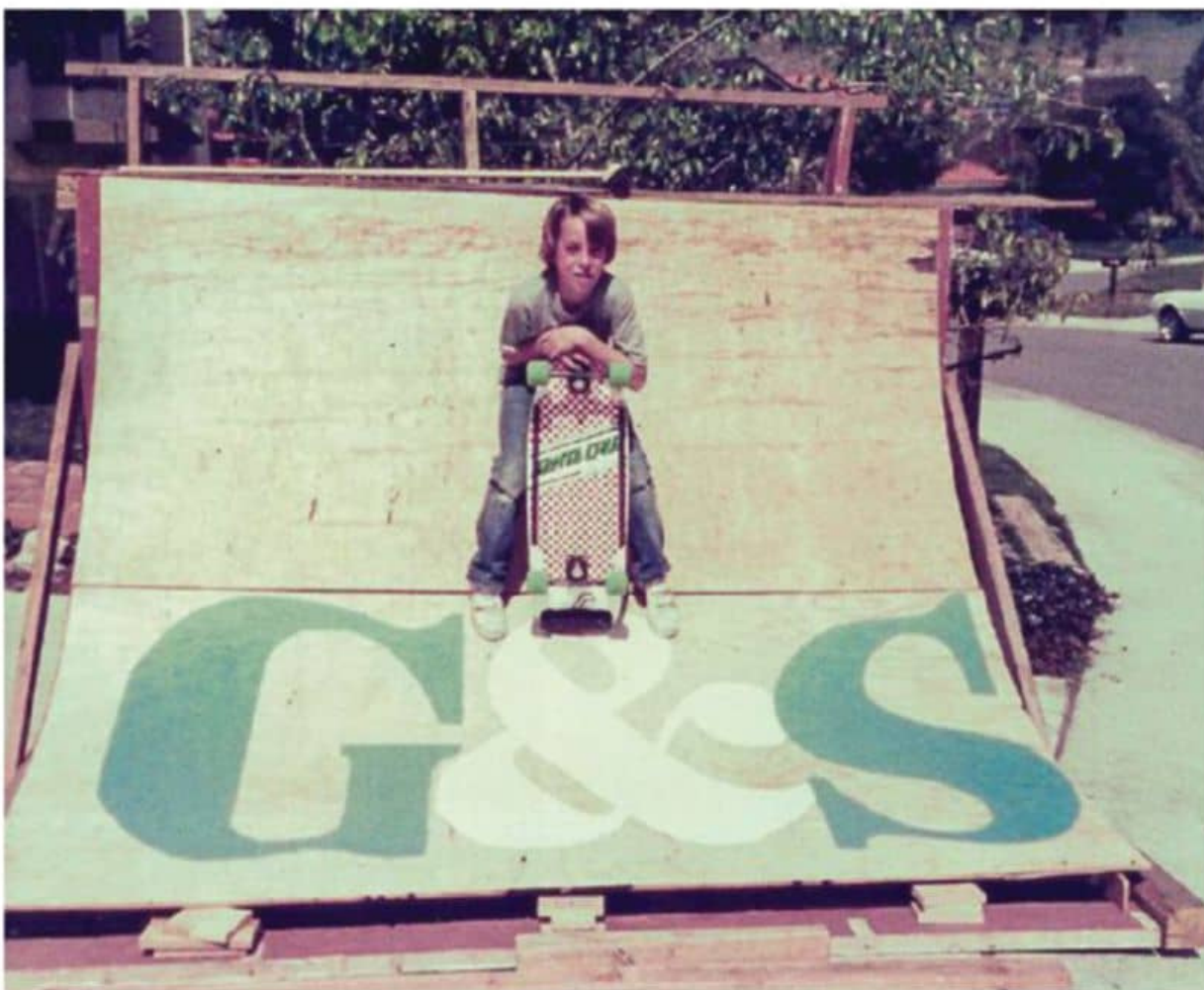
THIS IS PETER HEWITT!

PHOTOS: HEWITT



**"I THINK I MIGHT HAVE BEEN
A LITTLE BIT CRAZIER
THAN MOST KIDS"**

While the pros hog the keyhole, young Pedro gets **boneless** in the back bowls of Del Mar

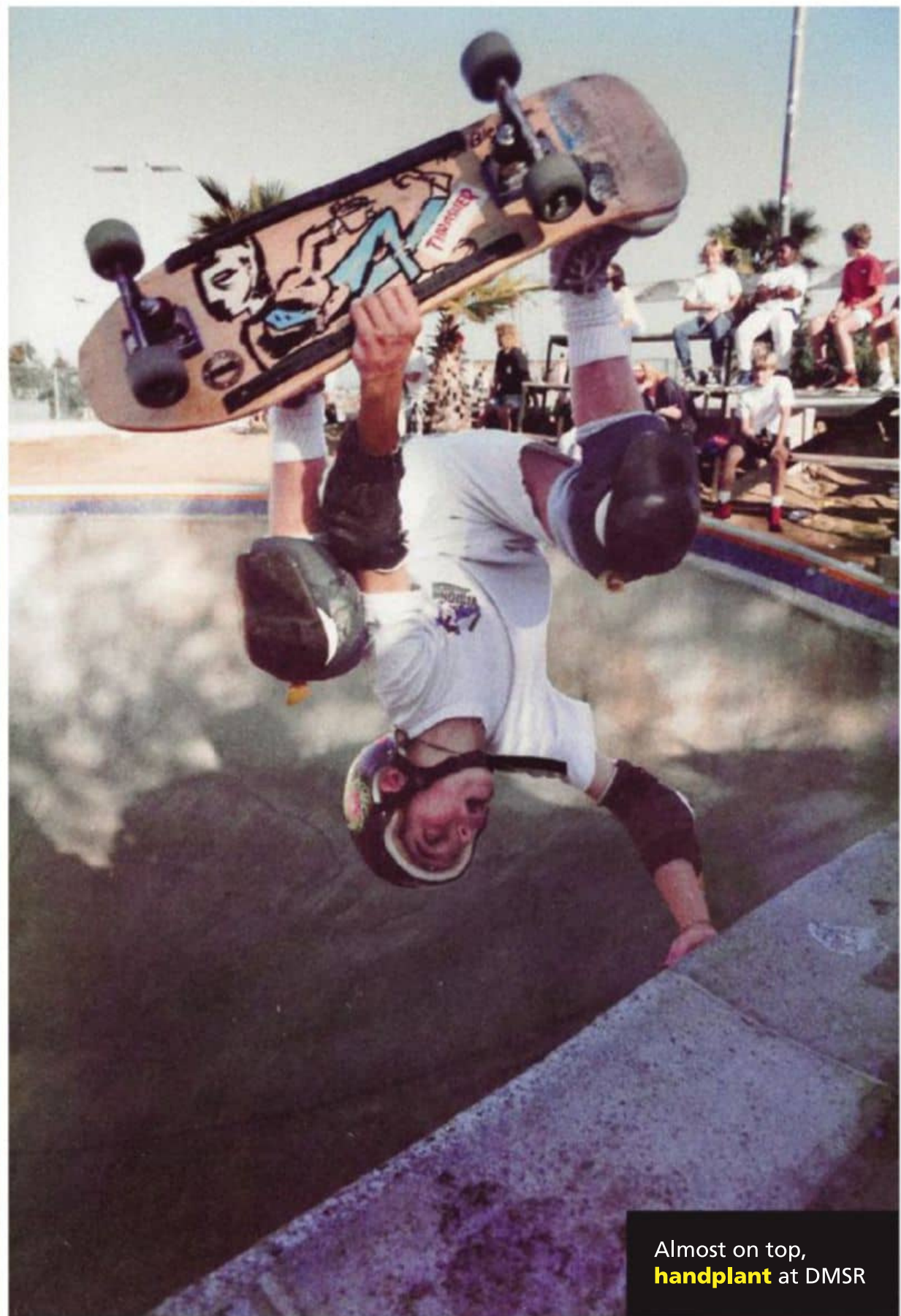


We were playing war in the canyon and stealing wood from construction sites. We would drag the wood as far as we could and then we would just build the ramp, like, *Alright, this is it. I'm not pulling it any further. This is where we're building it.* My brother and I had our own ramp in the driveway and that's how we'd meet people that had other ramps and stuff. I think I might have been a little bit crazier than most kids, more willing to get hurt, maybe.

Poaching Krap Nek's ramp, over the channel for the bros



got my first board when I was around six and rode on my knees for like the first two years. I always had a scab on my chin and my mom's like, "Why are you always getting that scab on your chin? I think you're doing it wrong." She grabbed my board and carved down the street. I was like, *Whoa, I guess that's how you're supposed to do it.* I slowly learned to stand up, but on my knees I was way better. I could go up curbs and shit. Skating was mostly for transportation at first. I would pack my backpack full of G.I. Joes and go to the other side of town and hang out with my friends.

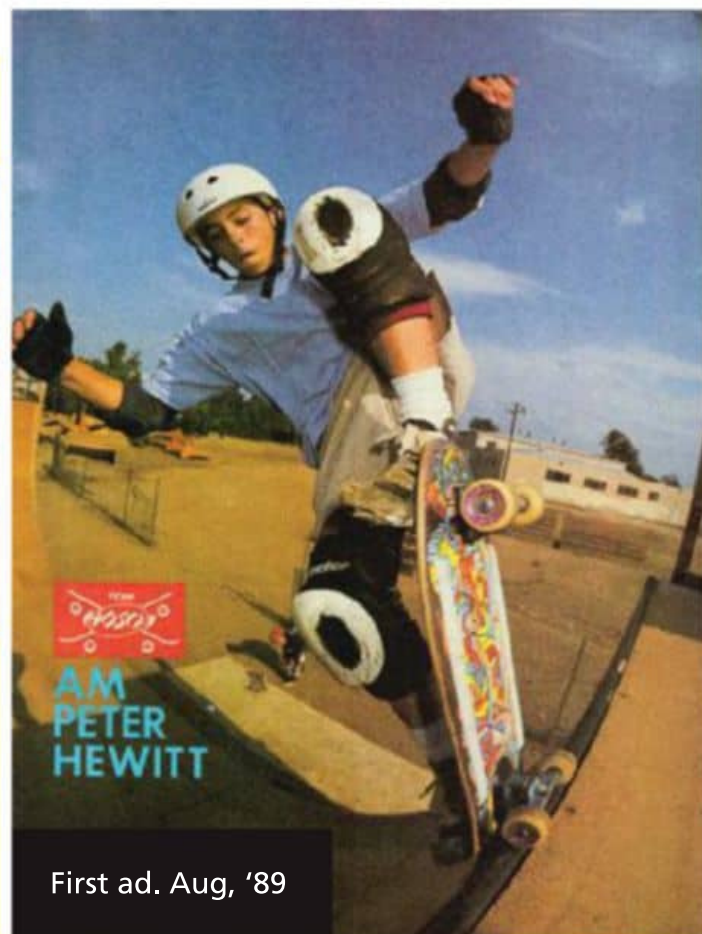
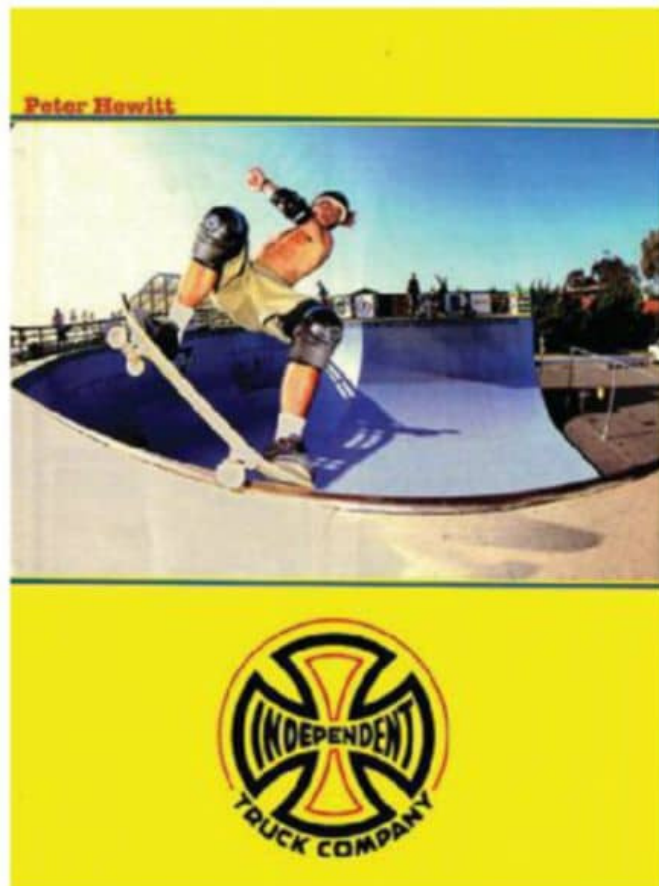


Almost on top, **handplant** at DMSR

My mom would take us to Del Mar on the weekends. The first time I got the wind knocked out of me I was standing on the deck—the decks were really small, like two-or-three-feet wide, and Neil Blender was doing these inverts and he was whistling, like whistling a tune while he's stalling an invert. His foot must have tapped me and I lost my balance and fell backwards and landed on my back and got the wind knocked out of me. I didn't know what was going on. I'd never had the wind knocked out of me! I had to crawl off into the darkness and catch my breath. The big show at Del Mar was the keyhole pool, but us little kids couldn't really get in on those sessions so we'd skate all the other stuff. I remember Chris Miller would come in and skate the *whole* park. That was what you wanted to see. Like, *How do these guys ride the back bowls? How does he skate the bowls that we usually ride?* So it was cool to see that.

THIS IS PETER HEWITT!

The first place I ever got jumped was at Fred Olande's ramp—came home with a black eye. That's also where I met Jay Adams and George Wilson, but we didn't know it was Jay Adams, we just called him Zipperhead 'cause he had the zipper tattoo on his head. They never wore pads and Jay always brought some hot chick with him. That's how I got sponsored by Z Products—my first sponsor. I rode the Z-Roller trucks, too, I didn't care. I liked the way they looked and I liked the colors of the Z logo. We had Butch Sterbins. It was a tough fucking team. I remember when I started riding for Hosoi, Fred was like, "You can't just quit Z, you gotta get jumped out!"



First ad. Aug, '89

The Linda Vista Boys Club ramp was where it really started to come together. The neighborhood was rough. You had to pay to skate, and a lot of the local kids couldn't afford it, so it was tense. We were in *their* territory. We'd be skating the ramp and see kids breaking into cars in the parking lot. It was a free-for-all back there. We did whatever we wanted. Luckily, there were some old guys who schooled us hard on the rules. Graham Stanners was our number-one influencer. Like, *Don't drop in in the same place twice*. He taught us how to carve the ramp, stuff like that. I learned McTwists when I was 16 on a Hosoi Street Hammerhead there. It took me a month to learn it. That was another rule: you couldn't just jam up the session trying the same trick nonstop, you could only try it at the end of your run or at the end of the session. That was a rule. You didn't want to ruin the session trying the same trick over and over. Soon after that, the local kids burned down one of the ramps and the skatepark closed.



Lofting an O at his first pro event at Le Grand-Bornand, 1991

Graham took us on our first adventures. He took me, Matt Moffett and Steve Bailey to Europe for the first time and we traveled around with all the Scottish dudes. We skated Marseilles for the first time—there was no graffiti at all; it was brand new. I entered my first pro contest at Grand-Bornand and watched hundreds of drunk little kids riot through the town. It was insane.



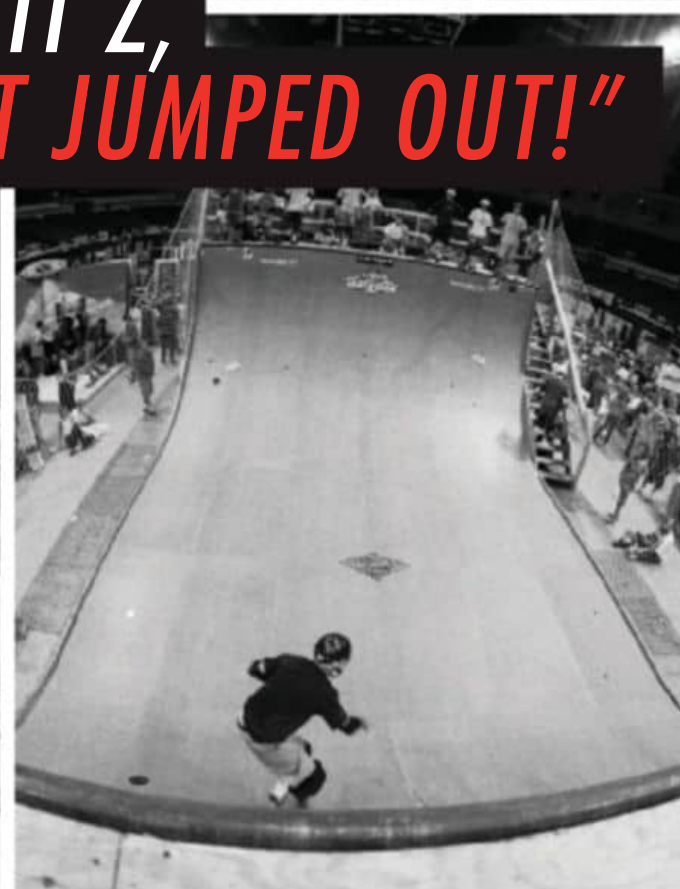
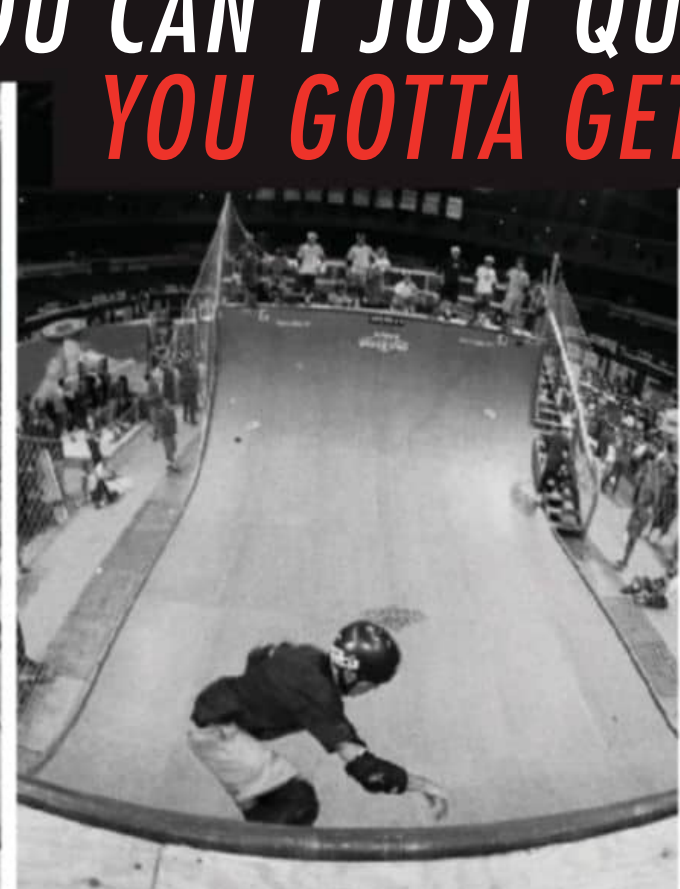
First 540 board



Hewitt didn't invent the **frontside 540**, but he was one of the first to get really reckless with it—head-high huck on a dubious demo ramp, 1998



**"YOU CAN'T JUST QUIT Z,
YOU GOTTA GET JUMPED OUT!"**



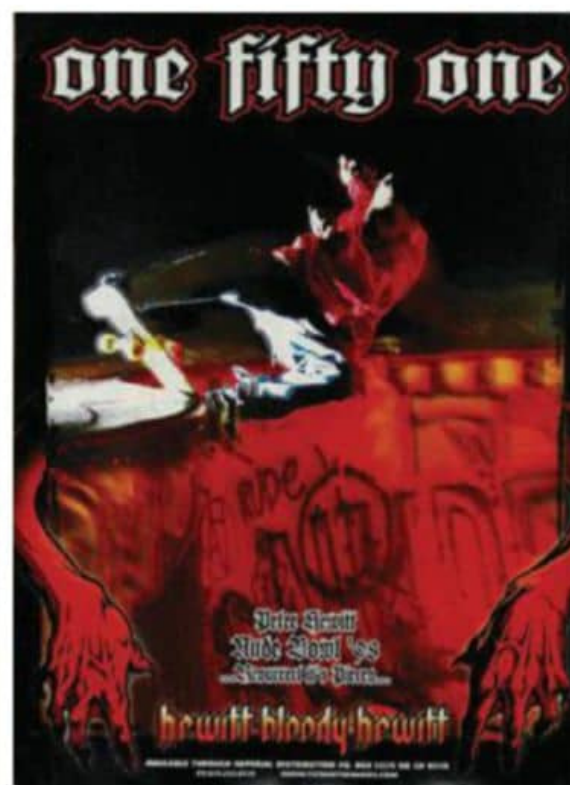
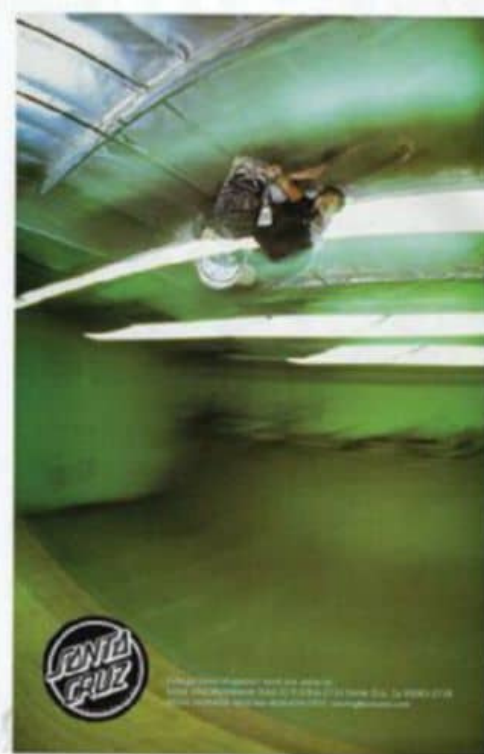
BURNETT

THIS IS PETER HEWITT!

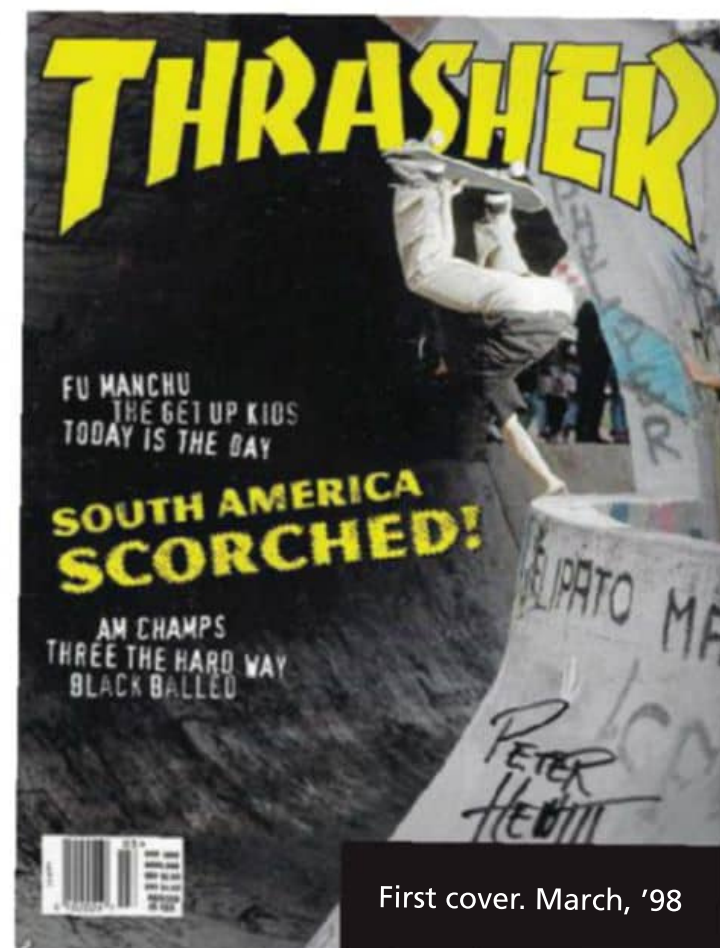
**"I'VE NEVER WANTED
TO QUIT SKATING"**

I got home from Europe and it was like, *Okay, now you're pro since you entered a pro contest*. I got a board on Santa Cruz. I also had to have double knee surgeries. My knees were already destroyed by then. I had them both done at the same time and then Santa Cruz sent me a Nintendo like a parting gift, you know? In hindsight it was a parting gift. They're like, *Here's your Nintendo*. They didn't kick me off, necessarily, I just stopped calling. I was destroyed. They tried to stitch my meniscuses up and then when they healed I went out and started skating again too soon and I destroyed 'em all over again. I was out for over a year.

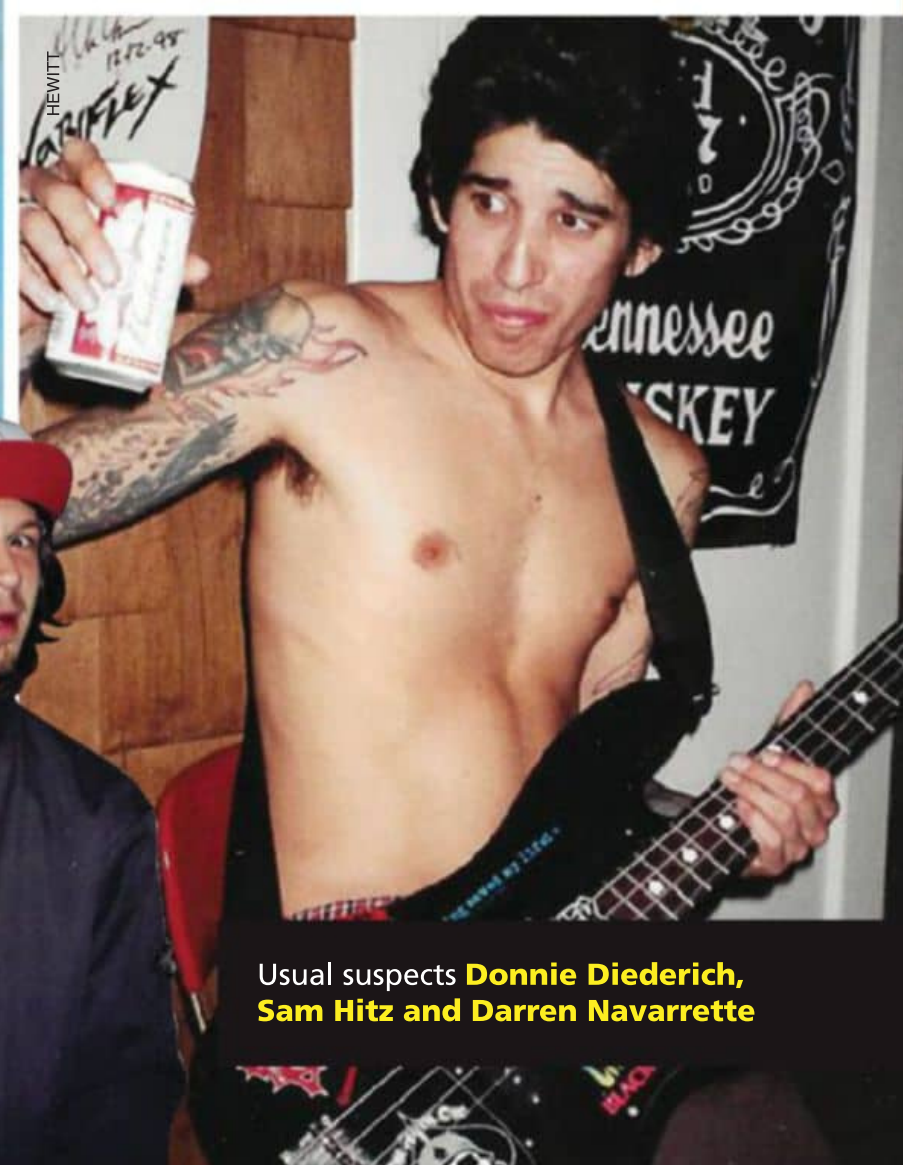
I was determined to get better and I think that's what's kept me going. I get hurt often and I always feel like that for a second, like, *Oh well, that's the end of it*. But then I switch my brain on to heal mode and I'm just determined to heal. And I think a lot of that is just believing—believing that you're gonna heal is a big part of it. There are times where I've felt like it was over, but I've never thought like, *Oh, I'm gonna do something else*. I've never wanted to quit skating.



Light, death and ladder.
Yep, that pretty much
does it



First cover. March, '98



Usual suspects **Donnie Diederich, Sam Hitz and Darren Navarrette**

I was working in the mountains for a few years, then moved back to San Diego. We had to have a million roommates to be able to afford to live. These were like my college years. Eddy Alioto, San Hitz, Darren Navarrette, Al Partanen and our friend Slayer all got a house. We had that place for three years and went though like 20 fuckin' roommates. We had crazy parties at that place, just savage destruction. Nihilist played my 25th birthday and they were just little kids with Conan the Barbarian haircuts playing Slayer. It was amazing.



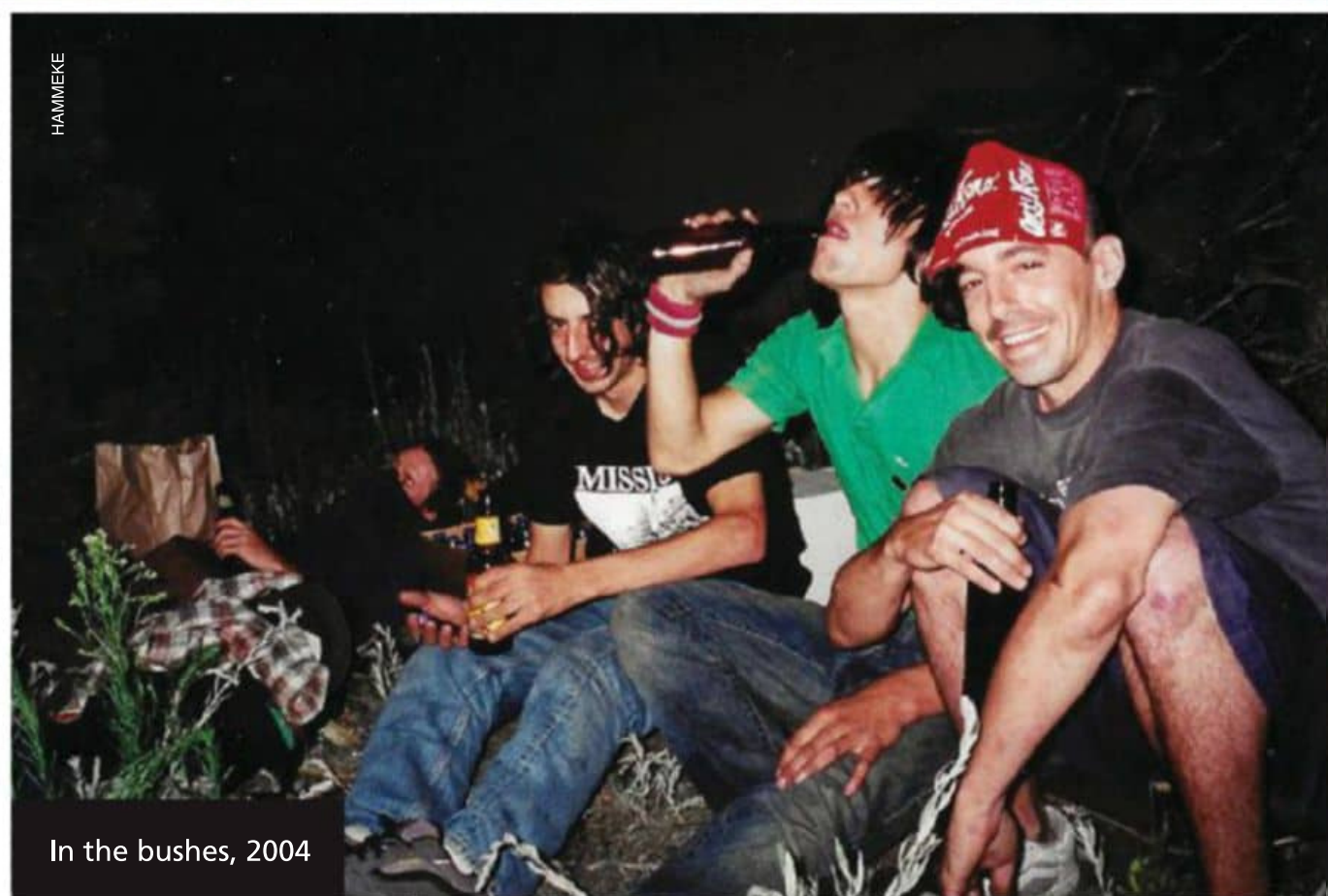
"Christian will always be at the top of my list."
Tribute **rocket air** on an OG plank for the
1999 hammerhead article

**"A LOT OF OUR EXCUSES
TO GO ON THE ROAD WAS TO
GO SEE WHAT
RED WAS BUILDING"**

Hitting the 10:15 mark over the door
at Dreamland's Pier Park. Thanks, Red

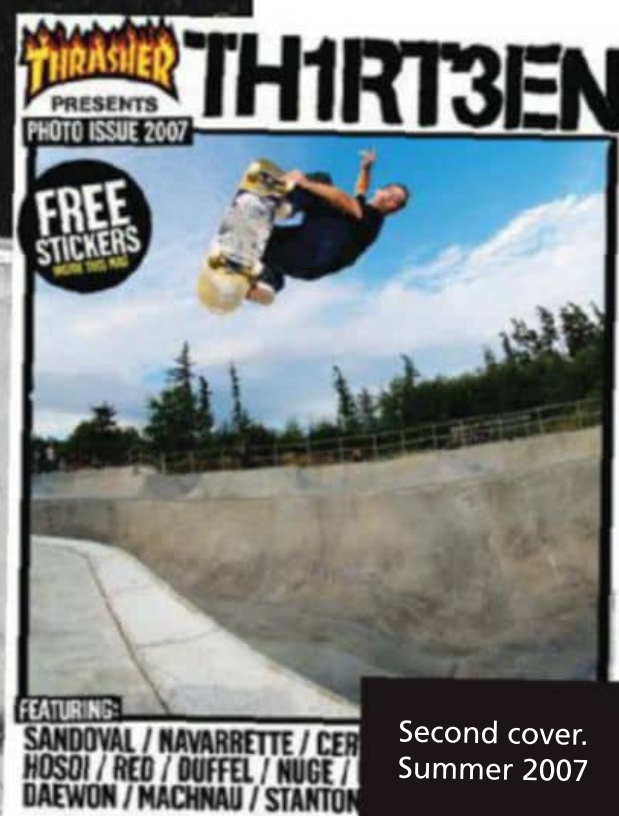
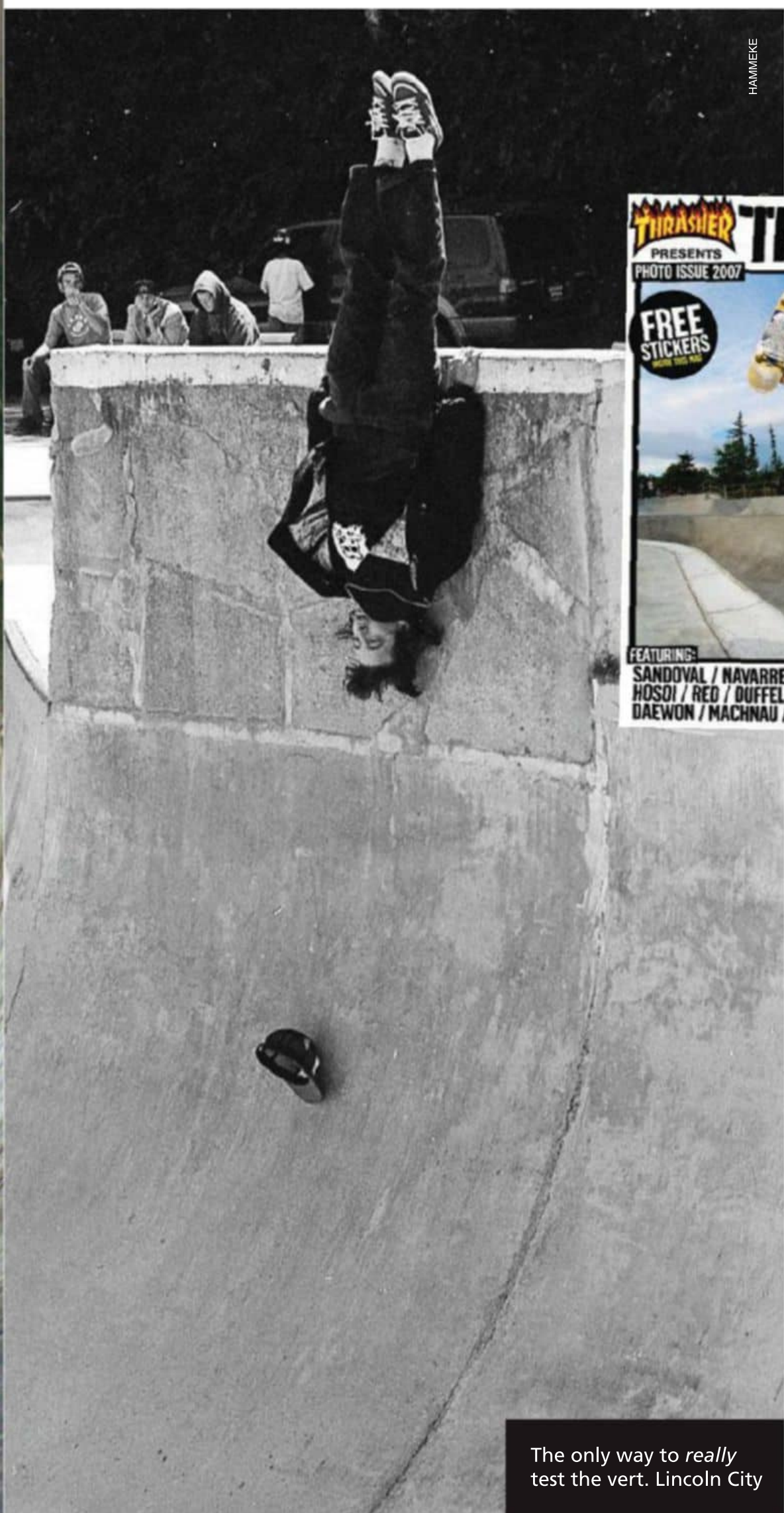


Burnside coven, 2002



In the bushes, 2004

THIS IS PETER HEWITT!

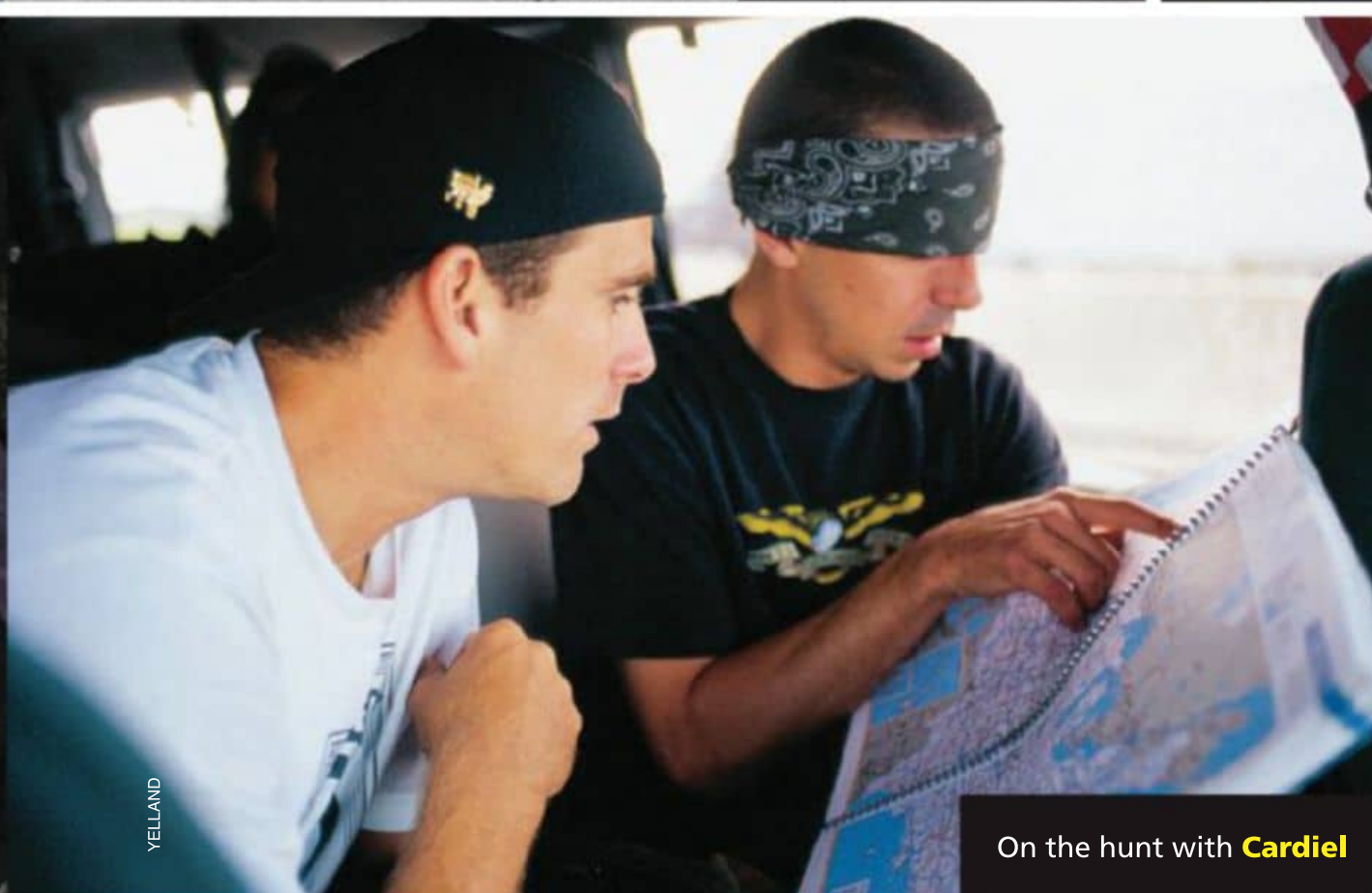


Second cover.
Summer 2007

The only way to *really*
test the vert. Lincoln City



Pala night shift, 2002



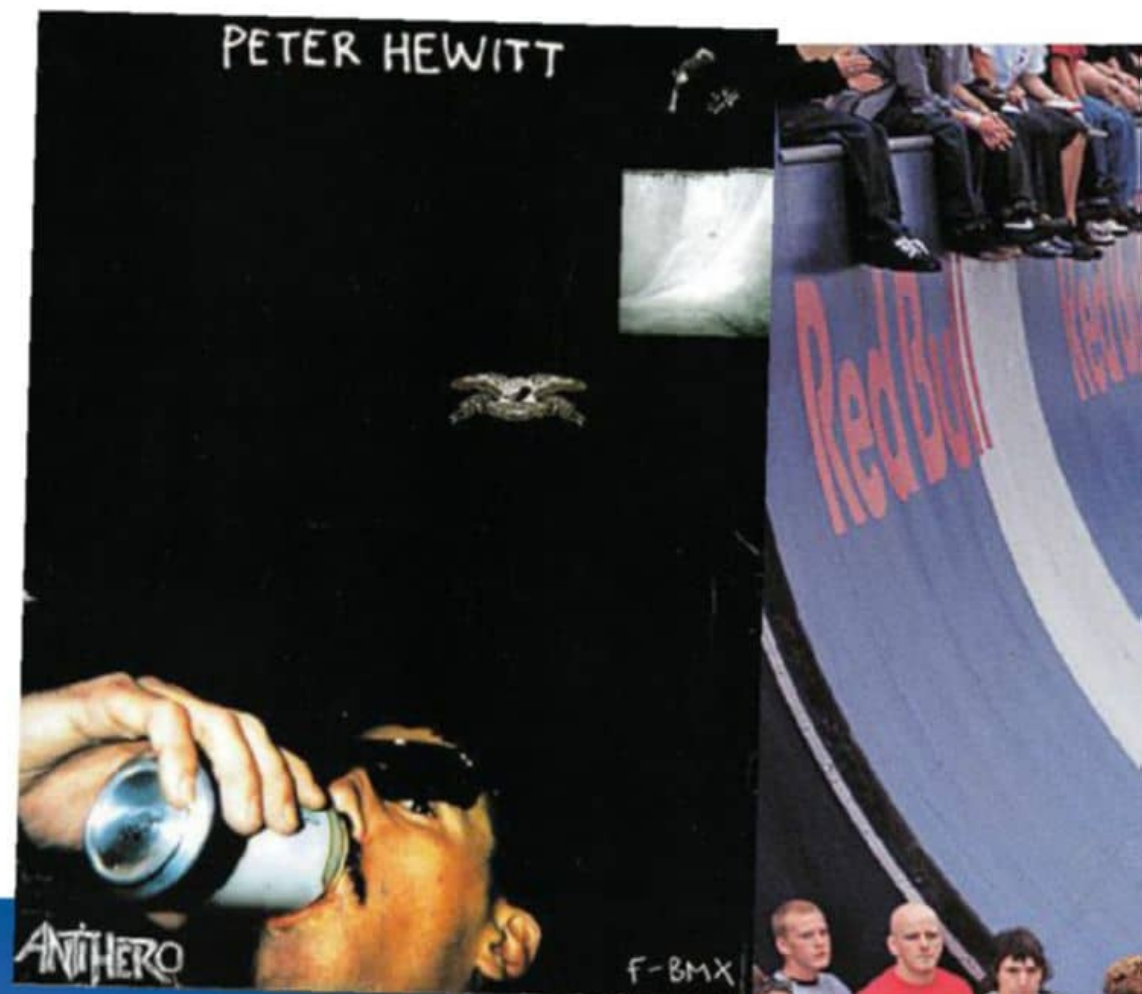
On the hunt with **Cardiel**

The inception of getting on Antihero was in '99, I think, at the first Marseille contest. I stayed with John and Julien and they were like, *We wanna put you on the team, but it's gonna take a minute.* And I was like, *Alright.* So I just waited. I got my first box when I lived in Seattle with Rabbi and Shaggy in 2001. Skateboard sponsors had been kinda brief for me before that. I didn't know that this was gonna be my forever home. Here we are 20-some years later and we're still doing it. Pretty cool.

For a long time, concrete was this thing that you heard about but was not really available anymore. We knew that there was crust out there. Jake knew where to go and find it. He was our tour guide. Then we had Monk and Red building the Grindline and Dreamland parks, so a lot of our excuses to go on the road was to go see what Red was building. And we did that for a few years, many years, actually, just following around Red and his crew. We'd get to the park, we'd skate it and then we'd wait for Red to get off work so we could watch him. And then we'd be like, *Oh, so that's how you're supposed to ride this place.*

THIS IS PETER HEWITT!

I'd done the loop at Tony Hawk's ramp in the bullring, but for Tampa we were getting paid. I was like, *Shit, I know how to do this*. I had been partying with fuckin' Jake Brown all night. I stopped at like two and Jake just kept going. By the time I saw him he was still in party mode and just *going for it*. I think I did the loop third try and then I'm like, *Alright, well, might as well try it switch*. I went and I just did the classic pump—which is the last thing you want to do. I pumped it and got shot out at the top and must have hit my head somewhere. I woke up on the gurney and got shuffled into the ambulance. I'm in the ambulance waiting to leave and they're like, *Hold up! We got another one!* And then here comes Brian Schaefer on a gurney. He kept repeating himself over and over asking, "Hey, can you loosen these straps on my head?" I'm like, "Hey, Brian, you gotta relax, man." And off we went to the hospital.



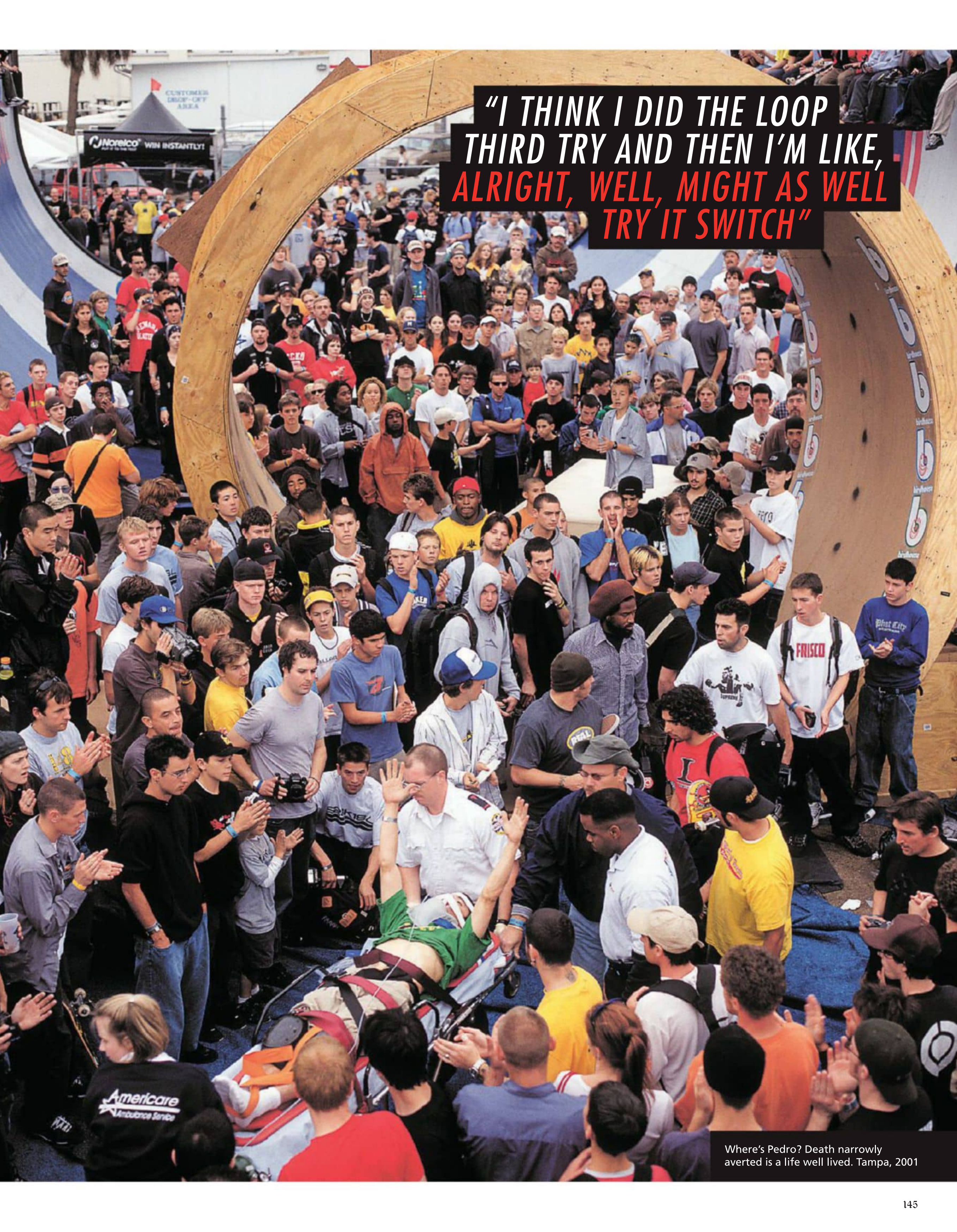
RHINO



Anything over Belmar's channel was a feat, but this **Madonna** is pure commitment



OGDEN

A large, diverse crowd of people, mostly young adults, is gathered around a skateboarder who is lying on a stretcher on a blue mat. The crowd is looking towards the center where the skateboarder is. In the background, there are wooden ramps and a sign that says "CUSTOMER DROP-OFF AREA". A quote is overlaid on the top right of the image.

**"I THINK I DID THE LOOP
THIRD TRY AND THEN I'M LIKE,
ALRIGHT, WELL, MIGHT AS WELL
TRY IT SWITCH"**

Where's Pedro? Death narrowly averted is a life well lived. Tampa, 2001

A low-angle, wide-lens photograph of a skateboarder in mid-air, performing an ollie over a deep, curved concrete skate bowl. The skateboarder is wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt, blue jeans, and a black cap. The skateboard has a red and black graphic. The bowl's walls are dark and show signs of wear and graffiti. In the background, a person stands on a raised walkway with a white railing, looking towards the skateboarder. The sky is overcast and grey.

**"ALL OF US HAD FORGOTTEN
THAT WE'D BURIED
A BUNCH OF BEER IN THE SAND—
EXCEPT P-STONE"**

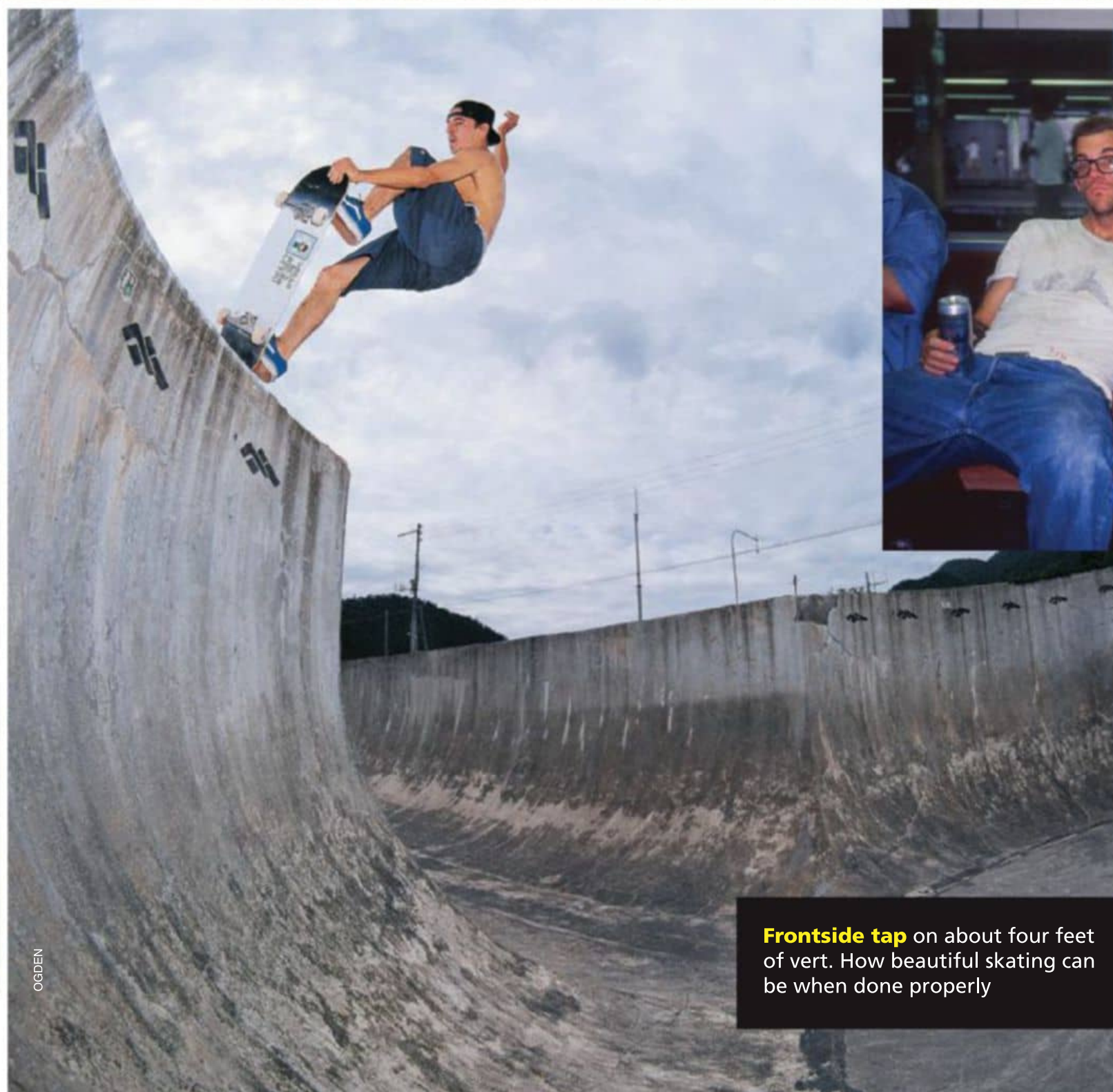
Bonus **ollie** over the canyon of
Japan's Annaka bowl, 2001

THIS IS PETER HEWITT!

Jake and P-Stone were great people to start your day with. They had such knowledge of where they were. They had tidbits and facts about every little place you'd visit. One time we showed up to this contest in Italy and we got there and P-Stone immediately had us bury a bunch of beer in the sand. I was like, *What the fuck are we doing?* And then we just went about our day and were having fun and this and that and then we ran out of beer. All of us had forgotten that we'd buried a bunch of beer in the sand—except P-Stone. He went and dug it up and it was ice cold. The sand was like a natural cooler. Prepared. P-Stone was always prepared.



Mutation conspiracy, 2001



Frontside tap on about four feet of vert. How beautiful skating can be when done properly



Bailey put that Japan mission together. He had the intel on the Hokkaido thermometer thing. That was our main purpose: to go out there and skate the thermometer. Everything else was just bonus. Jake was just so stoked on that trip. It was Bailey, Luke and Diego, and we had the *Thrasher* credit card, which I think got taken away after that. We lived pretty lavishly on that trip. We stayed at this hotel that was so nice. We'd go up and have drinks at the bar in the penthouse and Jake would be like, *Yeah, see those guys in the sunglasses over there? That's the Yakuza.*

THIS IS PETER HEWITT!

The most deadly seat in the house—
frontside flash 'n' roll, 2006

**"I DON'T UNDERSTAND
HOW WASHINGTON STREET
IS EVEN THERE"**

RHINO

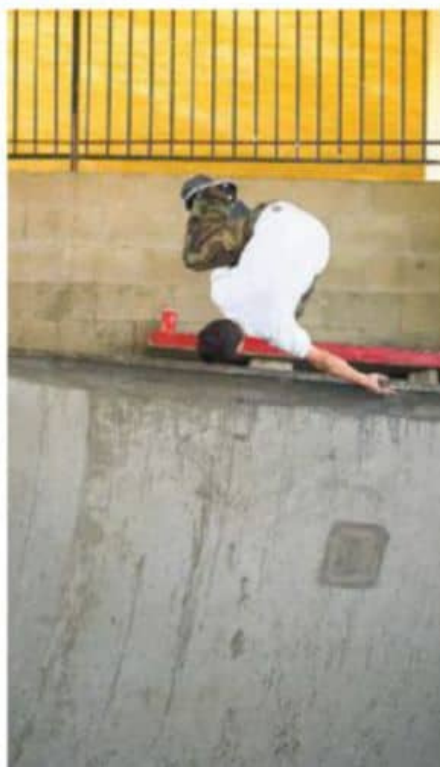
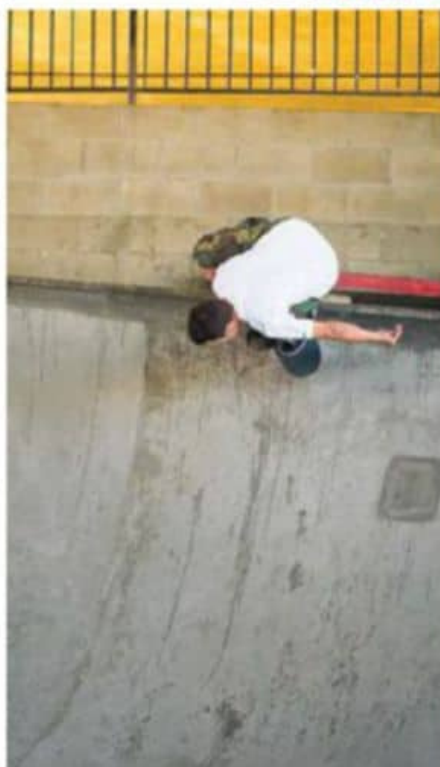
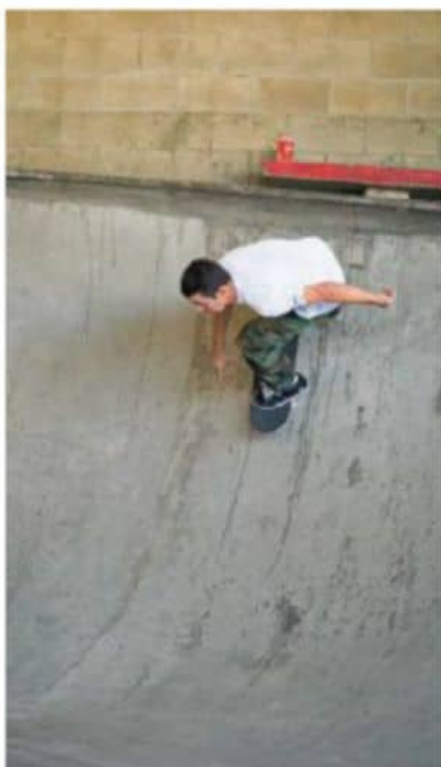
I don't understand how Washington Street is even there; I don't understand how it's our private park; I don't understand the insurance; it's a complete enigma; I have no idea how it exists. Chris Cope rips it the hardest, of course. He's the top of my list right now at skating that park. He knows every nook and cranny of it. And on top of that he loves it so much and with such a passion that he doesn't want to change anything in the park, where that's all I wanna do is change everything in that park. And I love him for that. But as the DIY does go, everything needs to change and that park needs to evolve and it will. So things will change, it's just gonna take time.

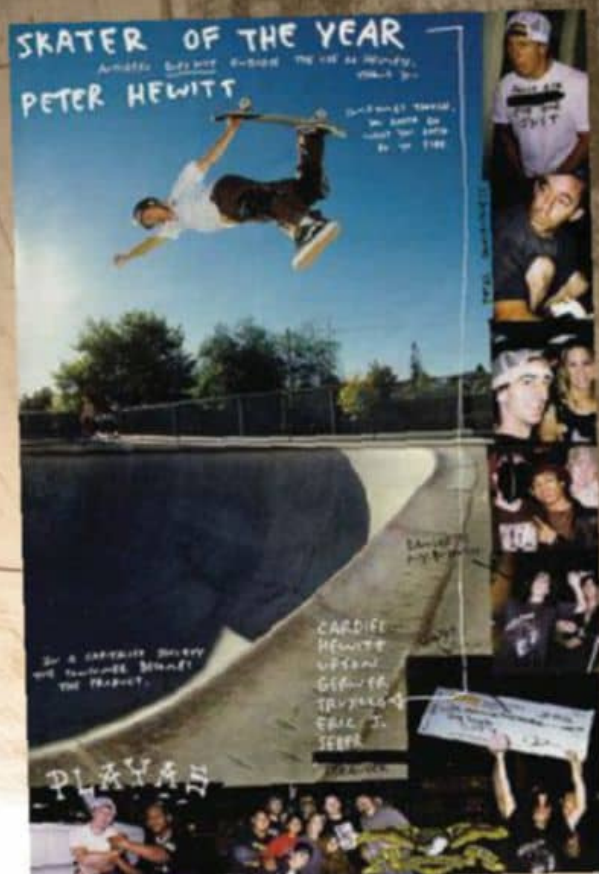


Sparky fresh,
Drehobl dusted



RHINO





Vox pro-model shoe

Forty years later and the **boosters** keep coming, WSVT

I got kicked off Nike right after I signed the loan papers for my house. I was upset, yeah, but only for a little while 'cause I just knew that the balance had to happen. Some things needed to even out. It goes back to the give and take, that balance thing. I'm like, *Well, that didn't work out because there had to be some balance here.* That's how I have to look at it, you know? I can't look at it any other way because that's just a waste of energy.



No waiting in this line—**oop egg** the sidewall, 2005



When the fastest skater alive went to the biggest bowl ever built. **Stale fish**, story at 7 (feet)

When Bucky's bowl was around, that's all I wanted to ride. It was Bucky's. That was it. That's probably my favorite thing to skate. It's the best of both worlds—big transition in a giant bowl. Darren and I figured out quick that you needed to sweep the bowl every single time 'cause there's stuff in there you can't see that's fallen in the bowl. We'd find all kinds of animals in there and things to pull out. We had a theory: we think that hawks would grab their prey and drop it in there to let it die and then swoop, come in and get it. 'Cause there were always hawks swooping around up there.





**"BEING ON THE ROAD
IS A LOT DIFFERENT WITHOUT
JAKE AND P-STONE"**

Lazy river? Not on his watch.
Ohio riot, 2018

All the friends we've lost, they've all affected me differently. For example, Grosso was a person who connected bridges between me and certain people. Without him, there's not that bridge anymore. But as time goes on you start to find other bridges and paths and different connections. Also, being on the road is a lot different without Jake and P-Stone. But I mean, God, so many years of good times traveling with those guys—like 25-plus years! So those are pretty fuckin' good numbers, but we coulda had a lot more. So you can think about that. But yeah, it's weird when certain people leave, other people—they don't replace them, they just fill in the gaps, maybe. For example, when Jeff was around Mike Lohrman wasn't skating, and now I skate with Mike Lohrman and that's pretty cool. That's just another bridge that connected again.



Quito crew, 2018

THIS IS PETER HEWITT!

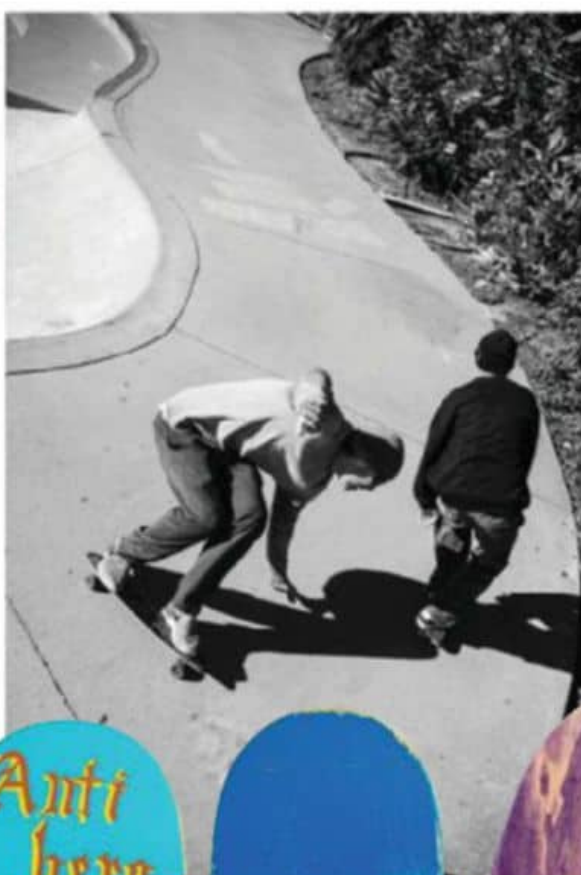
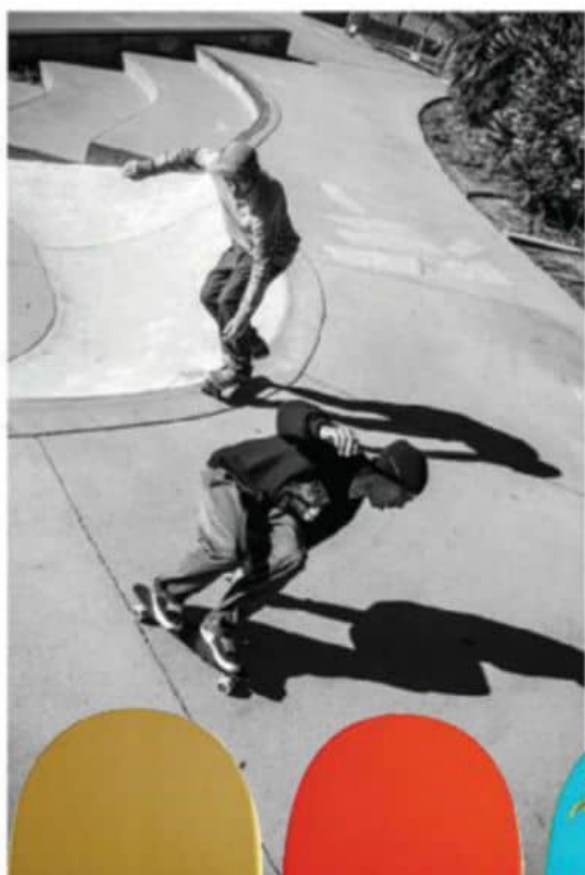


Pete and Neil, 2024

Skating with Neil, it's just a nice way to get up in the morning and start my day. 'Cause I wanna roll around, but I just wanna do it at kind of a nicer pace. And Neil skates in the morning. So from 9 to 11 I'm usually down there rolling around with him. And a lot of times we're just trying to have fun. We might find the lid of a cup and start throwing it around like a frisbee, you know? We just find things on the ground. It's one of the most crashed-into skateparks in the world, by the way. I'm gonna say three or four cars crash into the OB park every year. It's been there for over 20 years—you do the math. It's a lot of car crashes, so there's always shit you can find to throw around and play with.

Turn and burn on the elusive **Indy blunt 180**

"I'M GONNA SAY
THREE OR FOUR CARS CRASH
INTO THE OB PARK
EVERY YEAR"



PHOTOS: BURNETT

A polarizing quiver



Frank and I, we have literally sat in the back row of the van with each other for over 20 years. We have to entertain each other somehow. We just bullshit each other with nonsense. The better the nonsense, the more interesting the conversation. We work on little projects, little drawings and these voices just start popping up. Sometimes we stay in character for days, or even continue onto the next trip. Sometimes they morph. I have to distract Frank from looking up at the driver sometimes. I'll look over and see the fear in his eyes. When Cardiel's behind the wheel—he's a great driver, but sometimes looking up from the very back... you need to be distracted.



"I'M A ONCE-A-WEEK YOGA GUY RIGHT NOW"

I'm 50 years old, I'm married, I own a house and we have a nice mortgage. My wife is a yoga instructor which enables me to do yoga once a week. I'm a once-a-week yoga guy right now. But I love it. It's helping my body tremendously. Yeah, I'm just trying to be happy and I'm still in search for the fun. Just keep searching for the fun, which is what I've always tried to do. Life goes by quick, so you don't wanna be too serious about it. ♠



Peter finds the fun, along with another heavy challenge. Just like he likes it

DEATHWISH

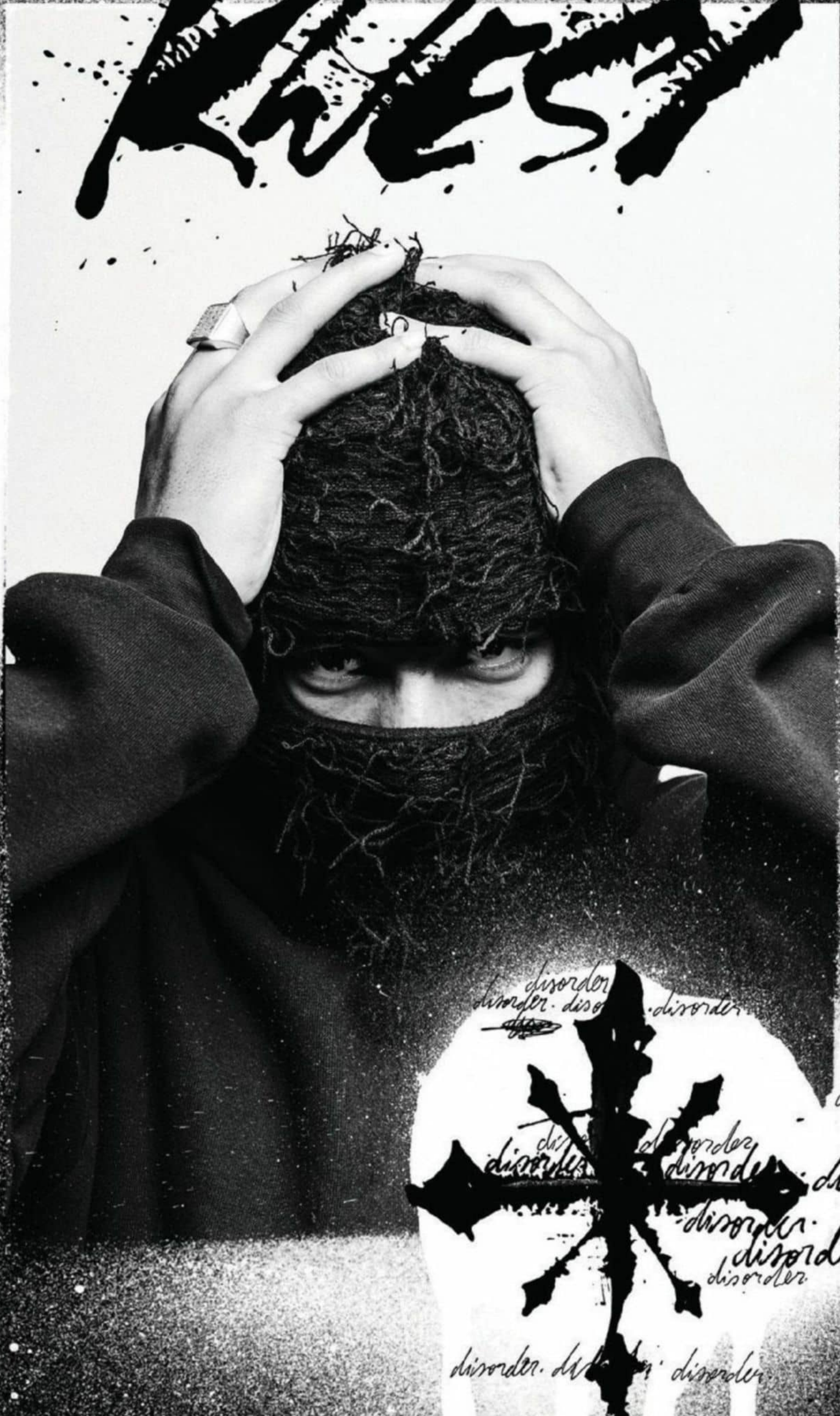


BRIAN O'DWYER









MATT COSTA

After shattering his leg into 20 pieces skateboarding, Matt Costa picked up an acoustic guitar and started out on a solo music career. Now, 20 years later and with a plate in his leg, Costa has come full circle—back on his board skating and teaming up with Jamie Thomas and the Zero crew to create original music for their videos and release them as an ongoing album project: *Zero + Matt Costa*.

—Nik Freitas

Tell me how this music project with Jamie Thomas and Zero came about?

In 2021 I went to Mexico on a trip with Roark clothing. We showed up at the Tijuana airport and Jamie Thomas was there. That was the first time I had ever met him. We flew down and spent about a week just skating and hanging around and getting to know each other. We kept in touch after the trip. He knew I skated

so he was like, *If you want some boards you can hit me up.* I was like, *Um, yes. I will do that.* So Jamie sent me some boards and eventually he asked me how I had done the music for the Roark film, which is what he was down in Mexico working on. I explained it a little and he told me he had this project he was filming: *48 Tricks At 48 Years Old*. He asked me if I'd be interested in scoring the music for it and I told him I'd love to.

Had he already filmed the 48 tricks?

Not yet. It was a really quick turnaround. He was going to do the 48 tricks all in one day and then release it around his birthday. Jamie just called me one day and was like, *I did it. I'll send you the footage.*

Wow. So did you write the music to the footage?

Yeah, kind of. I would work up different music ideas and send them to him to see what he was liking. I would pull up his footage in the Pro Tools session and write music to different sections. We would go back and forth on the parts he was liking and I would go back and finesse them a little more until he was happy with it and then they did a final edit to the music. It all happened really fast, like in a matter of days.

Well, it all turned out great. Tell me about what has happened since that initial music for Jamie's part. It seems like it turned into something more.

Yeah, Jamie really liked the experience and he asked me if I'd be interested in writing some more original music for some future Zero releases—basically to consistently score pieces of music for other Zero riders' parts and then release them as a record that can continually be updated.

That is such a great idea. It seems like this project has come full circle for you—since you grew up skating and now you are making music for skate videos.

Yeah, it really has. Growing up skating and getting turned on to so much music through skate videos and now getting a chance to actually write original music for a brand that I have respected since I was a kid, then to be able to release it as this ongoing record is really kind of a dream. Also, I was just talking to Jamie today—I don't think it has ever been done before, releasing music as an ongoing record.

Where are you recording the music for all of this? Are you playing all the instruments?

I record it all at my house. I played everything on "Introducing Kairi" and the "Jamie and Cab Mini Ramp" song. My drummer Corey Gash played drums on the Poods montage.

You seem to be doing more instrumental music lately rather than your solo stuff.

Yeah, I think there is something really freeing about that, especially doing more score-type



Matt skids a prodigal son tailslide

stuff to film and these skate videos. Traditionally when I play shows I'm the lead singer, but I love the idea of the music supporting something else. My music is made to support something bigger than myself, so I feel like this is the perfect way to do it.

I know that you were pretty serious into skating and sustained an injury which got you into making music. How did you get hurt?

Yeah, I was 19. I was trying to crooked grind down this ten-stair hubba at Workman high school. My board landed primo and my leg shattered—both the tibia and the fibula. My ankle broke and my leg broke into 20 pieces. The bone was sticking out of the skin. It was fucked up. I still have a plate in my leg to this day.

What year was this?

Two-thousand-ish?

Were you riding for anybody or filming a part for something?

Yeah, I was there with Anthony Mosley and there was a *SLAP* photographer. I wanted to try a 180 nose grind for a photo, but I obviously didn't get to try that.

Man, that is a pretty traumatic experience.

Yeah. I thought I'd be able to skate again after a few months, but it didn't heal correctly and I was in a wheelchair for a while. Basically, I couldn't really walk without crutches for like two years. I wanted to skate so bad. I would even try to do tricks with my one working leg and crutches. When they finally took the cast off my leg it was so skinny. I took my first step and it felt like I hadn't had a leg before.

“My music is made to support something bigger than myself”

So during those two years, that's when you began to write songs?

Yeah, I had an acoustic guitar and a four track. I would teach myself different styles of playing chords and recording little parts onto the four track. That's where it all started.

This music project with Zero not only seems to have brought you full circle back to being connected with skating, but you have also gotten back into actually riding your board again. When was the last time that you skated?

I honestly hadn't really skated since the day I broke my leg. If someone had a board I would jump on it and try to do a couple tricks but

that was it. I would maybe skate once every five years.

That's a long time. What was the moment where you decided to skate on a more consistent basis?

I was playing a show two years ago and someone had left a deck in my car. During the other band's soundcheck I rode around on it. There was a manual pad and I did a manual and then did a pop shove. It was hard. I have the plate in my leg now and I kind of feel like

my leg is maybe stronger now than it was. Just doing those two tricks got me going again. For a long time I had really big expectations. I'd be bummed that I couldn't jump down ten stairs again. Once I got over that, even if I could only do little tricks it became really rewarding to me. There was no pressure anymore. I was free. Then I started to surprise myself, like, *Whoa, I'm Smith grinding this ledge or I just did a nose grind!* That's crazy to me because I never thought I'd be able to do this again. ♠



DRAIN

Based in Santa Cruz, California, Drain have been grinding it out in the DIY hardcore scene since 2014, but it wasn't until the release of their 2020 album *California Cursed* that the band managed to turn heads on a larger scale. Released during the pandemic, the album never got the touring schedule it deserved, especially for a band that thrives on explosive live performances like Drain does. They now get a second shot at bringing their groovy, thrash-inspired hardcore to the masses with their Epitaph Records debut *Living Proof*. We chatted with singer Sammy Ciaramitaro, drummer Tim Flegal and guitarist Cody Chavez prior to a packed show at Vancouver's Rickshaw Theatre. —Stepan Soroka



Your new album *Living Proof* is out on Epitaph Records. Did you grow up listening to Epitaph bands and compilations?

Sammy Ciaramitaro: Definitely. It's surreal. You look at the roster and it's like, *We get to be on here with these guys?* Even before I knew what punk rock was, I would hear Offspring or Pennywise on the radio. Growing up in southern California, it was always on. It shapes you because you hear it before you're even interested in music. It's so sick.

Tim Flegal: Being a huge Bad Religion fan, and Brett Gurewitz owning the label, it is surreal. It was wild to get to meet him in person.

Do you feel like hardcore is enjoying a surge right now, and does it feel like you're riding a wave in that regard?

S: Oh yeah. I think the post-COVID wave is still going. During lockdown, a lot of people thought, *When shows come back on, I'm not going to take it for granted.* And a lot of kids discovered hardcore through the Internet during that time. Short videos popping up became more common and kids were exposed to hardcore shows in that way—dancing, diving. Like, *This is the most insane thing and I want to find this. Oh shit, it's in my backyard? I'm going to go when shows come back.* I see so many kids that tell me they discovered hardcore in 2020, and it's like, *Fuck it, welcome. Let's go.* Even with this tour, playing with bands like Outta Pocket, they came out of the gate and the first couple of shows are already sold out. They didn't have to do what we did. I have no regrets, but that's sick. I wish our first shows were to 300 kids in our hometown, and within one show everyone loved us and knew us. That wasn't the case, but it's stoke. Everyone needs to win.

Do you think there is a ceiling to how popular a hardcore band can get? Once it gets to a certain point, can it still be considered hardcore?

S: I forget the conversation, but someone said, *They did a lot for being a hardcore band.* And I think you can do a lot because you're a hardcore band. The narrative gets flipped, but you're in control. You can do whatever you want. If you don't want to do a lot of things, then there is a limit. And some people only want to play for their friends. They don't want to meet strange kids or be on this big level.

They just want to play at their local venue and open up for touring bands. And that's cool. But if you want to take it to the next level and you keep your feet rooted in the world you know, I think you can do anything.

T: That is what's cool about hardcore is that it's not limited to a certain style of sound. Bands that push the ceiling are inspiring. I'll always consider Turnstile a hardcore band no matter how many Grammys they win or stages they play.

Sammy, you have an overtly positive stage presence. Why is it important for you to bring an element of positivity to your performance?

S: I don't know, man. I try to keep it real—almost to a fault. Life's tough for everybody. The last thing I want to do is have people go out of their way to see us, us go out of our way and drive 12 hours to play, and be upset. We're here to have a great time and I hope the audience is too. For 25 minutes, you get to forget about what's going on outside, because that's what we're doing. I'm not thinking about whatever is going on at home. I'm having fun with my friends, making new friends and

helping them have a good time. There are enough dudes who maybe don't have that mentality, and that's okay. This is just what I like and I'm going to do it because it makes me feel good. Shows cost money. Merch costs money. People drive to the show, maybe get their window smashed. The last thing I want to do is have someone think, *Damn, I kind of got bullied. Those dudes didn't seem happy to be here.* We've been there, we've played on the floor to nobody and now we go to a show to a different country and there are already 400 tickets sold. It's like, *Yo, I'm having the best time ever.* That makes it easy. Everyone here makes

“Bands that push the ceiling are inspiring”

it really easy to be positive. Life is rad. Let's have a good time for 25 minutes and party.

Obviously, listening to your music is a logical first step in getting to know your band, but do you think Drain needs to be seen live to be fully understood?

T: I would hope that our music stands on its own, but I would be lying if I said that, at least for me, when we are writing music I don't think, *Damn, this part is going to hit hard live,* you know what I mean? Even having that notion when writing music leads me to believe that part of what makes our band special is the live show. Hardcore is such a visceral, in-the-moment experience. And as popular as live footage and social media is, I don't think you'll ever be able to replace being in the room and seeing the band playing live. ♠



julian lewis / photo: tim aguilar / autumnheadwear.com / @autumnheadwear



POOLSIDE

Poolside is Jeff Paradise's ultimate musical vehicle—he's the producer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist that brings the sunny-disco tunes to life. We met up on a foggy afternoon during SF's Outside Lands music festival. While fans were out frolicking on the polo fields, Jeff and I talked about getting hazed in the skate industry, trying to find footing in the music world and how his dreams became a reality. —Maddie Manson

You're playing two sets at Outside Lands, right? Poolside and a DJ set?

Yeah, I have a live band of seven people and we are playing on the main stage. And I'm DJing today, too. I've been DJing longer than I've been doing live music. I like DJing a lot, but my band is probably a better expression of the music that I like. But I love both.

So how did you begin making music?

I went to college for fashion design and worked in skateboarding before that—doing silk screening and fashion-production stuff. I thought of it as a creative outlet, but I never thought music was a reliable career. I had always been in bands, I just never thought music was a choice you could make, it was just something you did as a hobby and some people got lucky. So, I went to SF State for fashion design and realized I hated it.

It's very tedious work.

Yeah, and you have to sell individual pieces to rich people or be in, like, a mall—neither of which I wanted to do. Being a boutique-type clothing designer is hard. I had a record collection and I started DJing.

So it was more of a gradual change instead of some sort of big break.

I don't know if I really had a big break. Maybe this could be it? Early on, my friends who I started a band with back in college, we broke up and they formed a band called The Rapture. They got pretty famous at DFA Records, who also represent LCD Sound System. They started taking me on tour with them. Through that I would get bookings. Their success was kind of my big break, their friendship.

Tell me about your time in the skate industry.

I grew up in Southern California and I was a weirdo, so skateboarding was a natural fit. I found skateboarding and punk rock simultaneously. It was very underground still. Pre X Games, if you will. So I found a bunch of weirdos like me and I felt like it saved my life. I was uninterested in sports and school. I just thought I was an alien and I dove into skateboarding. To be honest, I was never amazing. I could keep up with good people, but I was never gonna go anywhere with it. This guy Dorian Tucker went to my high school. He was pro for Scarecrow. It was inspirational that he was succeeding at this. The idea that you could skate or play music for a living was cool. We've fallen out of touch but we were somewhat close. I was in a fashion design class in San Diego and met a woman who used to work at Tum Yeto. Her boyfriend still worked there. She was like, *You should work there! You're a skater.* I was like, *Dude, I'm so not cool.* A position opened up and she was like, *Just go. I'll get you the job.* I was 18. I showed up; I knew no one. I was from East County. East County was not cool. These were all dudes from Del Mar, Leucadia, who skated.

They weren't rich kids, but they were skater bros. I thought it was a dream job. I was so nervous to go to work, I almost didn't go. I've actually never even told anyone that. I was like, *Fuck, I'm so scared.* I went and I got ridiculed, like, so hard. Everyone was such assholes to me. It was a loving/hazing thing it turned out.

Tough love. They got to test you out a bit.

Oh, a lot. I got paint balls thrown at me—the paint from the silk screening. I got hazed so bad that the owner, Tod Swank, told the whole warehouse staff, *Stop hazing Jeff.* It was so bad, but I was pretty tough, I guess. A lot of cool people there showed me how to be an insane skateboarding adult when I was just a kid. They didn't even realize how young I was. They would always invite me to the bar and I still had like three more years before I could go. They would sneak me into Live Wire and whatever. Then I ended up starting a band with this dude Danny Power and this dude Duane Pitre, who was pro for Alien Workshop. Rob Dyrdek put out our first record, out of the kindness of his heart. I was a kid, so all of

“I found a bunch of weirdos like me and I felt like it saved my life”

these things were insane to me. After about a year it finally dawned on me that some of these guys were gonna be losers soon. All they do is drink beer, fight and skate. When you're 18, that is the coolest thing ever. They were all semi-pro skaters that got flow. I was dating a girl who was a skateboarder. I thought it would be my life forever. Then I was like, *Wait, this shit kinda sucks. Without some weird stroke of luck, this looks like it's gonna get dark.* I started seeing the shadowed side, then I went to college.

It really pushed you to do more.

Yeah. San Francisco seemed really cosmopolitan compared to the east suburbs of San Diego. I really felt like I was leaving to go to the big city and become a fashion designer. Now it feels like a tiny city. I moved up here and became disenchanted with fashion and found music again. That's the story. I've never really told it that directly.

And that's the story of my life. What's next for Poolside?

An album on Ninja Tune/Counter records. I have a bunch of touring and more music festivals. It feels like all of the dreams I had growing up are coming true. Everything I originally wanted to do is all happening. ♠



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BONES



YETI

FRANKIE AND THE WITCH FINGERS

I got to catch up with the ever-evolving powerhouse that is Frankie And The Witch Fingers just before their sold-out show at the legendary Pappy And Harriet's in Pompton, CA. As a group that brings an out-of-this-world electric energy to their performances, it was not seeing them blow the roof off of a venue straight out of a western movie set. This is a group that keeps growing in rock potency with every album and hypnotizes their crowds with their mind-bending jams. —*Larry Green*

You're a very busy band and you seem to be constantly touring. Are you in-between tours right now?

Dylan Downer: Yes, we are going to Europe before this summer and when we get back we're doing the same thing to the US—we're doing a long tour then a short tour.

You toured with Cheap Trick not too long ago. What was it like playing huge venues with a classic band like that?

D: It was intense, weird and interesting at the same time—just an different from what we were used to, on such a bigger scale. That doesn't mean to you are 50 feet away, but it's awesome to be on a giant stage like that.

Were you able to feel that same energy you got from a more intimate place?

D: In a certain way, yeah. I felt like we were kinda just playing with each other—getting the energy from each other and feeding it like it was a smaller room. We would set up in close together so we could see it didn't seem like this big space between everyone. I think it translated to the old bands.

If you had your choice to spend up for band, who would you want to tour with?
D: Right now I'm going through a huge DINO phase and I've never seen them live, so it would be DINO or Jags. But if I have to choose it would be DINO.

The band seems to be getting more and more attention, which is not seeing such a killer group of people doing well.

Do you ever run into any crazy fans?
Frank: Not in a bad way. Everybody's pretty harmless, but crazy as in dedicated. We have fans who show up with a stack of every single one of our records and every single one of our seven books and ask, "Can you sign all of these?"

Those are the best kinds of crazy fans!
Josh Wheeler: Absolutely—good crazy. We prefer crazy fans, honestly.

You've recently gotten some new members—Pickle on bass, who played with Death Valley Girls, and Nick Aguilera on drums from Straightforward. I feel like your Voltron character is finally complete. How has this lineup changed your sound or influenced songwriting?
D: When Pickle joined she brought her own flavor to the sound and writing process. Nick, who's the most recent join, brought his energy to the mix. We're just kinda forming our own special soup and everyone has their own ingredients.

A lot of your songs feel very Latin and jazz influenced. What kind of stuff do you listen to for inspiration?

Nick Aguilera: When people ask us to describe our sound—you just said you recognize the Latin and jazz, which is for sure a thing. We all collectively listen to tons of different music. I like to go deep into finding the next thing. When we got asked, "Who are your influences?" or "How do you try to sound like?" at the end of the day at our core, we're a rock 'n' roll band, but we're constantly evolving our sound based on what we're hooked on at the time. We've collectively been into fusion, jazz, afrobeat, Latin and you know, we all keep the rock 'n' roll/punk ethos at its core.

Nick, you're an insane record collector. What are some of the last records you've purchased?

D: The last thing I got was this just-released Paper Moon by Jimmy Heath. Before that, the last thing I was really hooked on was the *Auto De Da* soundtrack, which is incredible. The whole just been on a huge jam kick. The hard hip—anything like early Herbie Hancock, Jimmy Rollins, Lee Morgan. **J:** When we first jammed with Nick, he wasn't in the band yet, he asked me, "What's your favorite jazz album?" I answered *I Love Supreme* and *Angel Dust*. It was the same for him.

And now here we are, I'm constantly pointing my handwrens by making them listen to what I'm into. A lot of the time that gets the creative process going in a way—it kinda sparks an idea that allows us to write a song of our own, like a collective melting pot of thoughts and ideas that eventually lead to us pumping out songs to keep the creativity alive so we don't get bored and our fans don't either.

When do you have time to write? Can you write when you're on tour or do you have to wait until you're home?

D: It's honestly pretty fucking hard to collectively write on tour. I know we all have ideas in our head, but it's really hard to bring those together when you're in the bus or when you're at a soundcheck, so it's kind of easier to do that home. These last couple months have been epic. We've just been harvesting out all these ideas that we're really hooked on.

What percentage of the past do you spend on the road?

D: Probably half the year if you add it all up.



Last year we did over 100 shows, but it feels like we were just half the year, lots of travel.

Do you ever get burnt out?

J: There's definitely an ebb-and-flow to it, you know? Like, you're on tour for two weeks and you don't want it to end, but then you get to three weeks and you're ready to go home, then you get over that hump and you get back to being excited again. I think that we did go to extreme last year that we're trying to be a little more conscious of coming aside there for ourselves to be more happy and creative individuals.

Is there anything you guys do on tour to keep yourselves entertained or sane when you're gone for so long?

J: We play like Cans.

That's a great quote. Who usually gets longest road?

J: I always go for the Longest Road tour. They've figured out that I do that so I'm trying to go with some other strategies.

J: We always bring up over a billion pillows and our fans.

You guys have been working really hard at this for a while. Do you have any advice for aspiring bands out there just starting out?

J: This is something we love being asked after shows. We want to make like-minded people and what I usually say is, do it because you love to do it and the rewards come along.

People usually have the same fantasy: playground or something like that, but I think we live in a time where that doesn't need to be a part of the equation. If you love what you're doing and you do it as much, that comes across to other people and great things will happen.

J: Yeah, there's no formula. I feel like some bands have managed to make it.

What's the secret? How do I slip about to being popular? There's no secrets, there's no formula; you just keep playing around.

J: There are lies, because it's moments. If you're a band, that means what kind of music you want to play, that's

important, but get out of them a little bit, too. There's so much stuff out there so listen to and be inspired by that today all the way back until the 1950s. The more you know influence and learn about other types of music, the more creative you'll be with some to give us a magazine. That'll just become a better musician. Also, when you're writing songs,

"There's no secrets; there's no formula; you just keep playing shows"

even if you just have to do it on your iPhone, record everything. You can go back to it and build on it later.

Anything super exciting coming up?

J: Definitely. I think the main one is that we have a new record very imminent. That's what we're gearing up for right now, so the tour we mentioned will be in tandem with the record. ■





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A
BEAU-
TIFUL
HORSE

WILLIAM MONERRIS SHOT BY ALEX PIRES



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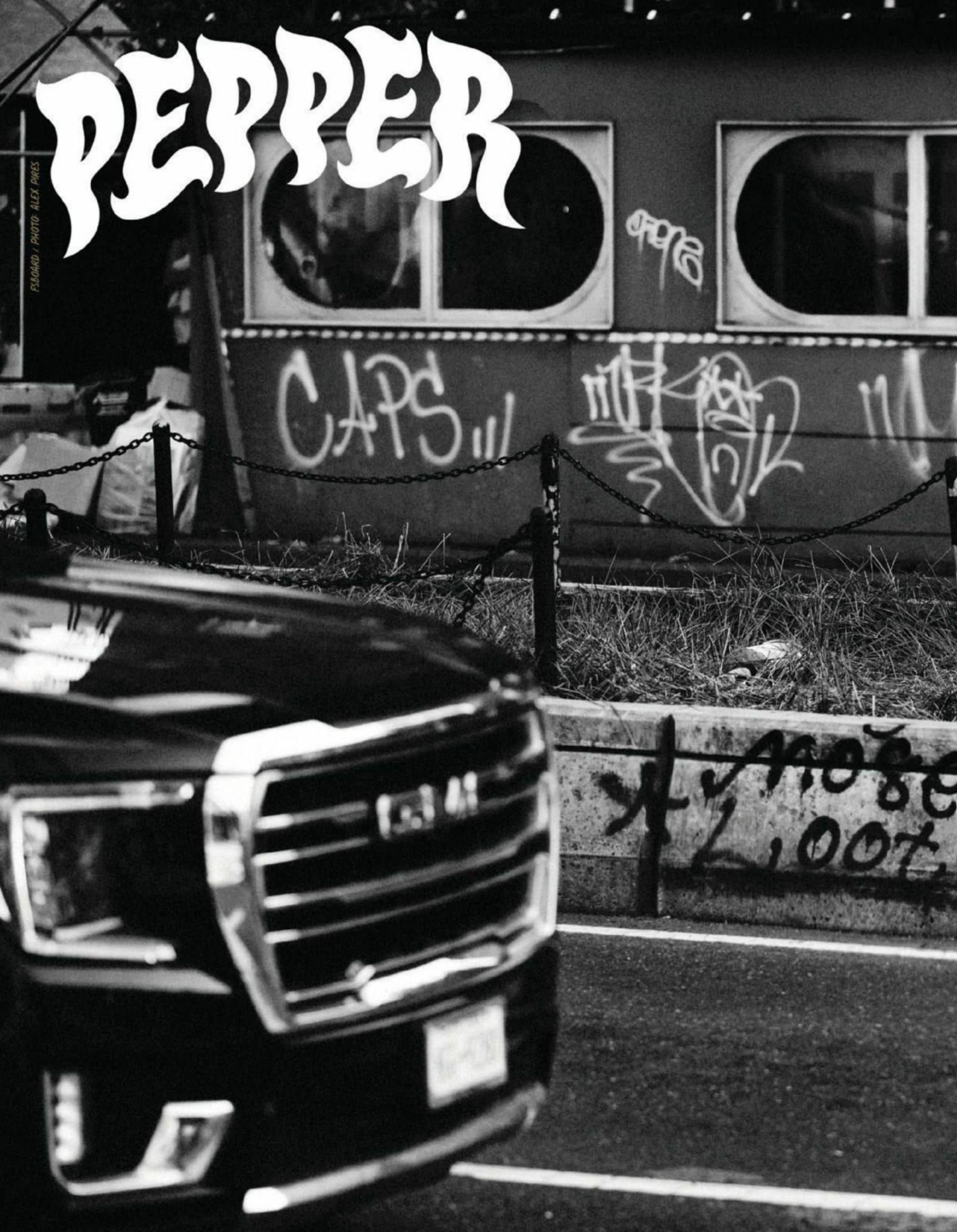


Nick Peterson, Frontside inverts under the bridge.

SHOP.THRASHERMAGAZINE.COM

PEPPER

ESBOARD / PHOTO: ALEX PIRES





MAX PALMER

Biggest Little
BOLTS
Biggest Little

CHRIS**JOSLIN**
MATT**BERGER**
ALEC**MAJERUS**
JOSH**GOMEZ**
PAT**DUFFY**
KRIS**MARKOVICH**
ANDRAS**ALEXANDER**
TYLER**DEWITT**





RIPNDIP

DYLAN JAEB

Thunder

TRUCKS

148 TEAM HOLLOWS
BUILT LIGHT WITH EXTRA HEIGHT





PHOTOGRAFFITI



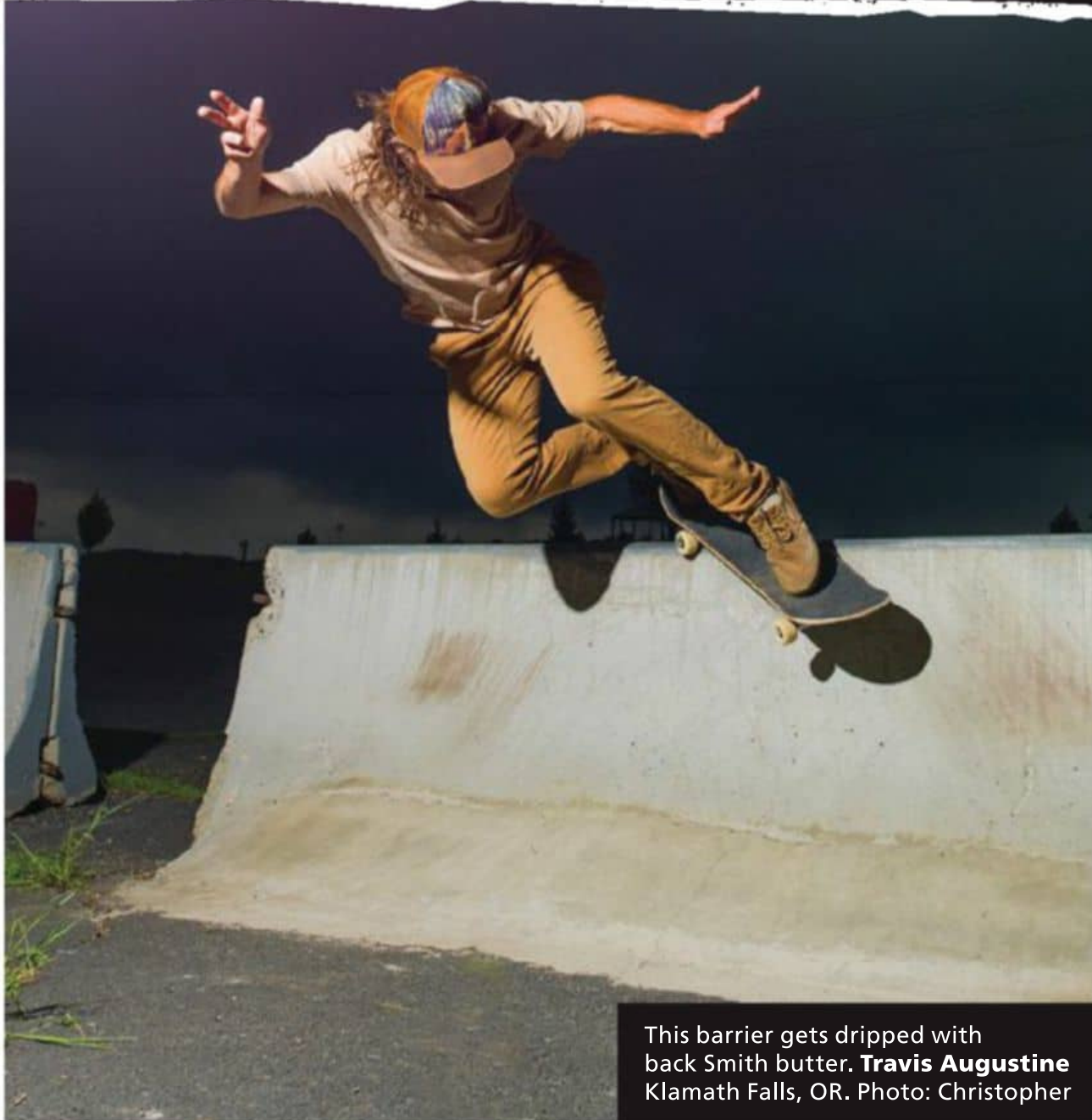
There's more than one way to polejam. **Evan Tooley**, unorthodox board bash, NYC. Photo: Girard



A stinkbug can smell lovely... if you air it out. **Chuckie Radford**, Las Vegas, NV. Photo: Bueno



Pledge allegiance to the wedge. **Gunner Frazier**, backside flip. LA, CA. Photo: Hancak



This barrier gets dripped with back Smith butter. **Travis Augustine** Klamath Falls, OR. Photo: Christopher



Godzilla took a bite of this building, so **Ichi Yamada** chomps a kickflip. Savannah, GA. Photo: Parries



Hopefully the cameraman moved, because this 50-50 is a train with no brakes. **Geovany Banuelos**. Photo: Curry



Josh Heath serves up a healthy dish of backside 180 melon. Portland, OR. Photo: Johnson





KRISTION JORDAN
PLANBSKATEBOARDS.COM / @PLANBOFFICIAL



PHOTO: MICHAEL BURNETT





At the height of the Cold War, Russian skateboarders had to rely on roller-skate parts, used boards from random tourists and even had to make their own trucks just to feel the thrill of rudimentary four-wheeled fun. What a difference a half a century and a heavy dollop of globalization can make, because the USA's **Austyn Gillette** just became the first pro skater to leave an American brand (Habitat) to ride for a Russian one (the popular Rassvet).

Joining fellow Yank **Cambryan Sedlick**, along with new rider **Remy Tav**, you gotta think this was just the kind of shit **David Hasselhoff** was singing about on the Berlin Wall all those years ago. Pozdravleniya, Austyn.

How far can a skateboard career take you? And where do you even want to go with it? For stylish skate stars **Yuto Horigome**, **Ishod Wair** and **Carlisle Aikens**, the trip was recently extended all the way to Paris, France, specifically to the runway of a **Louis Vuitton** fashion show, with the Olympic champ draped in something resembling a very fancy rug while toting a handbag large enough to fit, if not a complete board, at least a nice pair of Rollerblades. Lord knows they can walk the walk, but are these shredder's appearances based on modeling abilities alone, or does their skate stardom play a part in securing the gigs? And if so, do they even get paid? And by whom? Do they at least get to keep the fancy frocks? And what the heck does prêt à porter mean, anyway? We'd ask Ishod, but he's too busy releasing his new Nike shoe, the Wair Max Freestyle, complete with what's gotta be the final trick into Miami's famous Challenger Memorial, aka the Triangle. Nike may be cutting \$2 billion from their budget, but that better not include Ishod's stack. Elsewhere on the fashion front, **Lev Tanju** of Palace fame has been named director of the Fila sneaker program, more specifically the new Fila+ entity, which, fingers crossed, will have a skate team. **Shawn Powers** would definitely look dope in some Filas, if he doesn't rock 'em already.

Other baller-ass news this time around has **Paul "P-Rod" Rodriguez** giving away a

brand new Tesla to one lucky winner who has also purchased some Primitive product. With one ticket granted for every dollar spent, why not get three **Desarmos**? No purchase necessary? Not in LA, friends! Paul is also rumored to be jumping on this year's Skater of the Year trip, which would be his first *Thrasher* mission since 2003's *King of the Road*. Welcome back, Champ. The SOTY, meanwhile, was recently spotted receiving a manly court-side congrats from rapper **50 Cent** at the Sacramento Kings game. The stars, they're not like us at all.

More happy news comes in conjunction with the release of *Baker Has a Deathwish Part 2*, specifically welcoming Brazil's **Yuri Facchini** on the Deathwish team and a pro board for big **Brian O'Dwyer** of Muni fame. Congrats, bros. Former Deathwish star **Mike "Lizard King" Plumb**, meanwhile, has reentered the ranks of the board sponsored with a plank on **Al Partanen's** Space Pupil operation. See one in action at Garvanza skatepark, Lizard's local. Up the hill in Highland Park, power couple **Lizzie Armanto** and **Axel "Axle Crusher" Cruysberghs**, are rumored to have drained their backyard pool, though invitations to skate it are said to be as elusive as a Lizzie switch tré.

Big-time shoe news (besides Ishod's) has Spitfire crossing streams with the stalwart Vans brand in a move that can only be described as off the firewall. Or maybe burnt waffles? Either way, shit's gonna be fire. Family-friendly cartoonist/illustrator **Henry Jones** scored a line with adidas while Converse Cons developed a couple of killer designs for

MILE HYPED



He looks so happy, nobody tell Nyjah that he forgot his shirt

high-energy skate rockers **Turnstile**. You saw the ad already, but might as well drive it home: **Dakota Servold** is getting a shoe on Emerica, thank God. Anything to keep that dude on the road.

Art world news has Toy Machine's **Ed Templeton** bringing his *Wires Crossed* photo show to the Long Beach Museum of Art this February through May. Unrelated, but former Toy rider **Blake Carpenter** hasn't found a new board sponsor, but he will be releasing his Spitfire part by the time you read this. Upstart Toy ATV **Raphae Ueda** is said to be recovering nicely after an exploded femur via a drop-in gone very wrong.

In the you-can't-go-home-again department, it seems **Jack Curtin** continues to buck trends, reuniting with **Stevie Williams'** metropolitan DGK team after exiting the uncertainty of **Brad Staba's** Skate Mental. Down in LA, **Guy Azulay** and legacy pick **Avery Johnson** have signed on with WKND, while company owner and filmmaker **Grant Yansura** bides time between making commercials for SKF bearings and filming his own TV pilot loosely based on his hilarious crew. Laguna's **Dylan Mills** has made the leap from Polar warehouse employee to member of the squad in a move that's gotta feel good. On the other end of the emotional spectrum, Krux trucks, the inclusive brand with the hole, has clipped the entire team and may even jettison the mark to ready-to-roll duties if not shit-can it all together. We gotta think that steps are already being made to get **Nora** on some Indys, but who knows in these crazy times. Former Krux TM **Alex White**, meanwhile, had some sort of surfing surgery done to her ears—a problem she won't face while attacking area curbs.

Finally, our condolences go out to friends and family of **Kolby Zugg** who passed away after a long battle with cancer. He was a true ripper and beloved friend to many in Montana and beyond. And Austin skaters recently said a sad farewell to **Dylan Roy**, a towering figure in the Texas skate scene. Both will be sorely missed.



Who says Nelly Morville never brushes her hair?

QUOTES:

"I don't fuck with the sun shining so bright."

—Kevin Bradley



"You can tell his room's clean by the way he skates." —Greyson Fletcher, about Tom Schaar

"My brain doesn't move that fast yet; I'm still learning." —Dylan Jaeb

"Imagine how different skateboarding would be if it didn't exist." —Frankie Spears

"I lost my virginity at a manual pad." —Elijah Berle

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"Dude, Benjamin Franklin's grave is nosebluntable!"

—Tom Karangelov



"Don't get nervous now that I'm here, dude." —Jamie Foy to Franky Villani while he's trying a front crooks

"I feel more and more like Danny Glover every day." —Chris Cole, on getting too old for this shit

"He hates it when shit's not equal!" —Ish Cepeda on "Equalizer 3"

INTERMITTENT FASTING



Move! Sarah Meurle's gotta eat all this crap before five pm!

"Chicken nuggets!" —Cordano Russell, said instead of swearing

"We take this sending thing seriously." —Nyjah Huston

"Tallahassee is Florida's O'Side." —Blake Carpenter

"I want to eat horseradish on acid." —Gus Gordon



DROP IN

What's coming down the pipe this month...

Entire Krux team gets cut
Hole-y shit!

1

Austyn Gillette defects to Russia
At least as far as a board sponsor



2

Brian O'Dwyer pro
Philly has a Deathwish

3

Turnstile gets a Cons shoe
Perfect grip, from stage to pit



4

Dylan Mills on Polar
Seeing red



5

P-Rod giving away a Tesla
To Beagle, hopefully



6

Pat Duffy turns 50
Time to back lip in the snow

7

Mike Carroll signature pants
For, like, yoga or what?



8

The Nike Wair Max
Much better than the Air Jordan Maxhams



9

Becoming a runway model
Every skater's dream, apparently



11

THE SECRET TAPE'S RAREST VIDEOS



FEELIN' PRETTY GOOD about your skate video library? We asked the expert at The Secret Tape to point out a few you're probably missing.

• **Antwuan Dixon's Sponsor-Me tape (sent to Alien Workshop)**
Why people let go of this sort of thing, I'll never understand.

• **Six Newell (Frank's Edition)**
Frank Gerwer dubbed 98 of these in the living room at Newell. Mine is over *Hall of Meat*.



• **Alien Workshop's Mind Field 10th Anniversary VHS**
Less than 100 of these were a surprise giveaway at a Greg Hunt photo show in Michigan. Not common on the market, but someone's now-ex-girlfriend probably has one rotting in the garage.



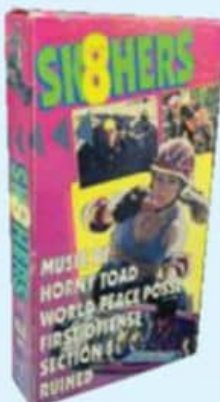
• **NSA 85'-86' (Full Set)**
Sure to excite anyone eligible for an AARP card. Losi rips.

• **Anti-Hero's Fucktards (Sealed)**
Legend has it Julien doesn't even have one.



• **Video Days**
Still, nothing feels quite as special as holding *Video Days* in your hand. No collection is complete without it.

• **Sk8hers**
Before there was *Gizmo*, there was this little-talked-about first women's video from 1992 with Cara-Beth Burnside and Saecha Clarke.



• **Thrasher's Blast From the Past and Present (Betamax)**
High Speed Productions' very first. Hard to find, harder to play. Kinda like *Skate and Destroy*.



• **Arnette Sunglasses' My Way**

Tony Hawk has a full part in this and I helped him track one down for his archive. That was a dream come true. Still not sure why he's holding a longboard on the back.

• **Welcome to Hell (First-run Alternate Cover)**

This one's got Muska's name on the roster. Sean Cliver messaged me out of nowhere and asked if I wanted one. "Yes."



• **Mark Gonzales' All I Could See Beauty Art Film from Alleged Galleries**

Bill Strobeck offered me a lot of money for it. "No."



• **Harsh Euro Barge (Unopened Case of 50 VHS Cassettes)**

It's amazing what a grocery liquidator in Kansas City may have in their warehouse.



COLLEN

TYLER PACHECO

Bump to wallride

Age: 27

Hometown: Saugus, California

Sponsors: Girl, Lakai, Oldies LP, Spitfire, Independent

Skate crew: HOMIE MODE

Laugh riot: Robin Williams

Musical genius: Mozart

Best smell: The woods

Worst injury: Nine staples to the head—basketball injury on a Girl trip

Pizza: Golden Boy

Hair care: *Wherever the wind blows*

Hill God: PSP264LFFF

Secret talent: Air-hockey champion

People say I look like: Beagle.
Two times if you know me

Dream trip: Antarctica

Movie: *Goodfellas*

Shoulda died: To the greatest song alive

Chip of choice: Ketchup

Fuck 'em: It's not that serious



TREVOR MCCLUNG
tail drop 50-50

photo: Schreiner

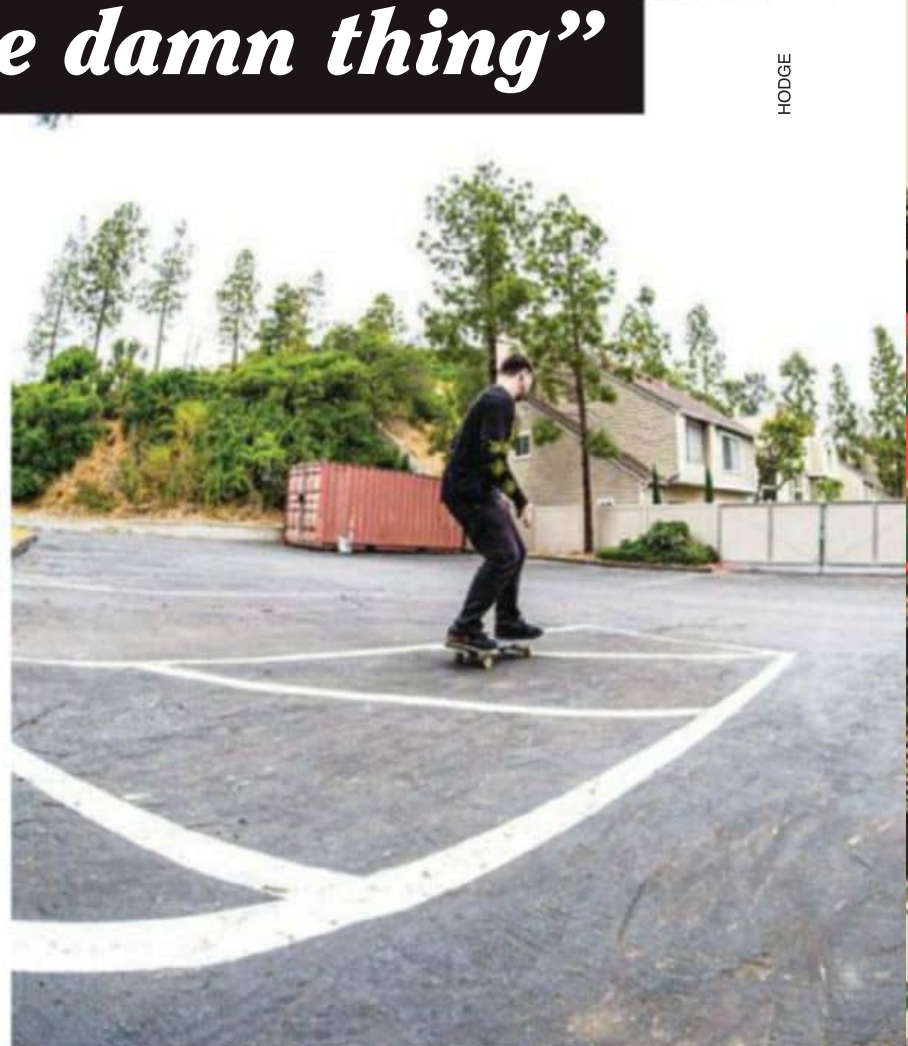
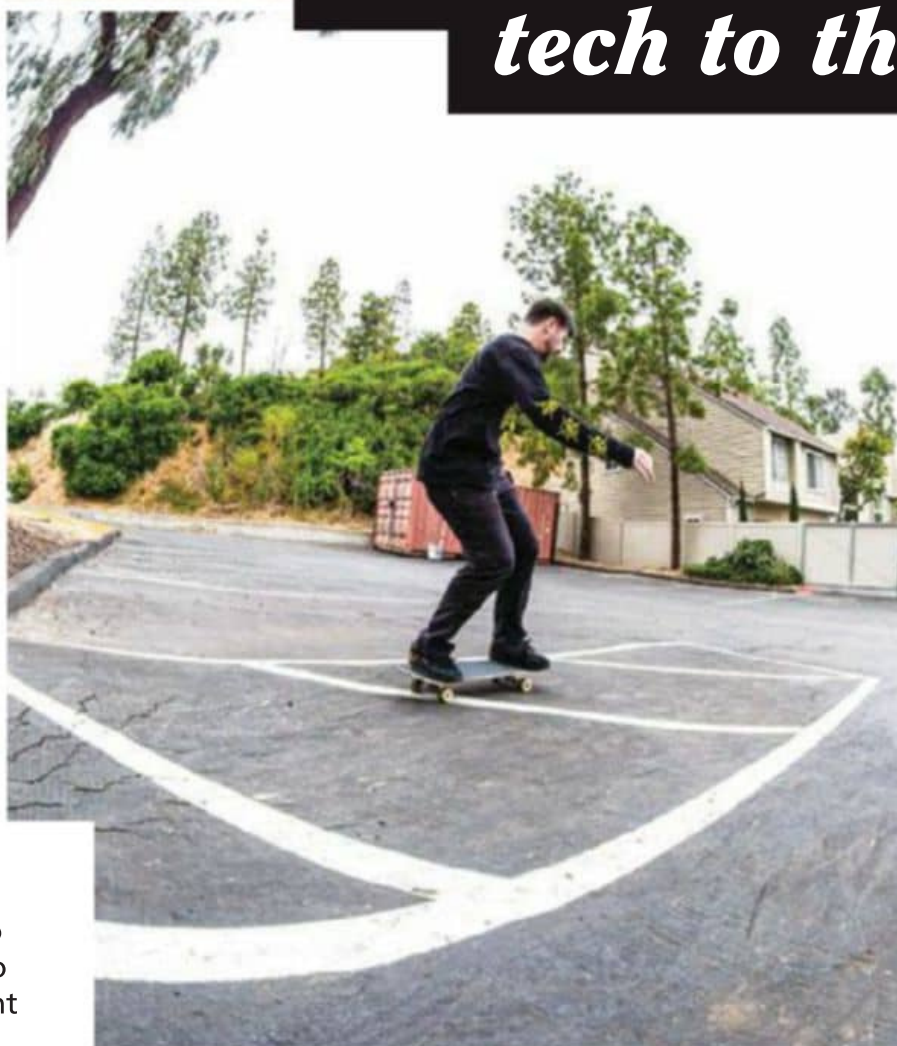
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SOMETHIN' ELSE



“Add a little Mullen tech to the damn thing”



HANDY MAN

If you got yourself a round bar that's feeling a bit too safe, just call **Chris Cole** to add a little Mullen tech to the damn thing. A **50-50 finger flip** should fix it right up. Still waiting on a pogo slide, though... ♠

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